

# Good News

March 2019



Newsletter of The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Our Saviour  
420 North Progress Avenue  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17109

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Lent begins this month on Ash Wednesday, March 6<sup>th</sup>. We will be having worship at 7:00pm at Our Saviour Lutheran. I hope you plan to attend.

Lent is a time for us as God's people to remember how the power of sin has wreaked havoc on our lives. One way to describe sin is by the acronym SNAFU. This is a military term meaning, **Situation Normal: All Fouled Up**. The military uses a stronger word than "fouled," as you might imagine. But it is true, the normal situation for us humans is that we foul everything up.

When we think about when sin entered the world according to the story in Genesis, we see that because of sin, humanity suffered separations. For instance, because of the Fall, Adam and Eve hid from God; this highlights the separation between humanity and God. As a result of the Fall, Adam and Eve realized they were naked and so made clothes; this highlights the separation of a human person from him- or herself. Furthermore, as consequence of the Fall, Adam blamed Eve; this highlights the separation between people. And, finally, there is enmity between humans and creatures, as well as the need for humans to work the earth for food; this highlights the separation between humanity and creation. These are the four separations that result because of the Fall, when sin entered the world: 1) the separation between humanity and God, 2) the separation between a human person and himself/herself, 3) the separation between humans, and 4) the separation between humanity and creation.

Lent takes us on a journey of self-examination. During this penitent season in the church year we are to scrutinize our lives. We are to look into our conscience and discern where the power of sin continues to drive a wedge in our relationships with God, self, others, and creation. And, by the disciplines of Lent—prayer, fasting, almsgiving—we strive to repent of our sin. Ultimately, Lent is about healing those places where we feel separated.

Now granted our human efforts to repair our lives in the face of sin will only take us so far. That is why at the conclusion of this season of Lent, we enter into Holy Week, the great mystery of our faith, where Jesus suffers and dies and on the third day is raised to new life. It is only Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior who can fully restore our relationships to wholeness. God had to cross the great divide between heaven and earth, and in Christ God crosses the great divide between life and death. Jesus comes to us, and Jesus takes upon himself the sin that separates us. Whereas humans are so good about separating ourselves in the many aspects of our lives, God is all about bringing restoration and wholeness.

In sum, this is Lent. It is a time of crossing divides. God bless you in this season, as you see to cross the great divides: from home to church, from the distractions of life to the stillness of prayer, from selfish want to generosity toward others, and from brokenness to wholeness.

Let us pray ... Restore us, Lord, to the blessedness of knowing wholeness with you, ourselves, each other, and with creation. By your grace, help us reach across the divide. Help us to remove whatever it is that separates us from the fullness of life. Turn our SNAFU-life into a SNAFF-life, Situation Normal: All Forgiven Forever. Thanks be to God. Amen.

In Christ, Pastor Joel Petruschke

## The Lessons for January 2019

**March 3** — Transfiguration of Our Lord

Exodus 34:29-35

Psalms 99

2 Corinthians 3:12- 4:2

Luke 9:28-43a

**March 6** — Ash Wednesday

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

Psalms 51:1-17

2 Corinthians 5:20b- 6:10

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

**March 10** — Lent 1

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

Psalms 91:1-2, 9-16

Romans 10:8b-13

Luke 4:1-13

**March 17** — Lent 2

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

Psalms 27

Philippians 3:17- 4:1

Luke 13:31-35

**March 24** — Lent 3

Isaiah 55:1-9

Psalms 63:1-8

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

Luke 13:1-9

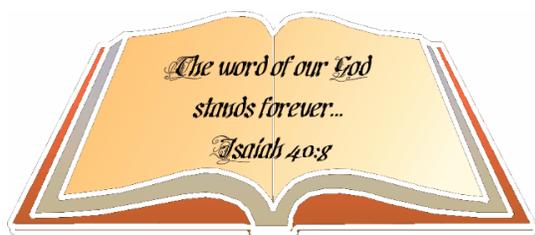
**March 31** — Lent 4

Joshua 5:9-12

Psalms 32

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

Luke 5:1-3, 11b-32



## Our Annual “Souper” Bowl Was A Success

The youth group would like to thank everyone who donated soup and other items for the “Souper” Bowl. Thank you also to everyone who stayed and enjoyed the delicious varieties of soups.

We raised \$453.00 for the Manna Food Pantry.



## A Thank You Received

On behalf of the Manna Food Pantry Board, we want to take the opportunity to thank you for the gift of \$473.00, from your “Souper” Bowl, as we continue to serve the hungry in our area. We really appreciate all the support from people such as yourself.

There is a great need out there, and Manna wouldn't be able to help the number of folks we help each month if it weren't for kind hearted friends like you.

Sincerely,

Sarah Kempf

Administrator

Manna Food Pantry

## Parish Staff

Joel D. Petruschke, pastor

Margaret Quintanar, director of music

Barbara Johnson, administrative assistant

**Good News** is a monthly publication of **The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Our Saviour**, 420 North Progress Avenue, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17109, 717-545-9992, ossec@comcast.net. **Deadline** for submission is the third Monday prior to publication month.

**If you do not have email or internet access**, your addressed copy of *Good News* will be available in your church mailbox the first weekend of each month.

## About Worship

There is no "About Worship" article this month, because we had two questions submitted for "Dear Padre," both of which pertain to our worship life. Please see those questions. Thank you.

## A Few Thank You Notes

I would like to say thank you to all my church friends for sending cards and coming to the memorial service for Nano. Irene Nanov & family.



Pastor Joel,

Thank you so very much for allowing me to ask the congregation to contribute to my food and clothing drive for Bethesda Mission. The Narthex was the perfect collection point. With the congregation's support we were able to collect 304 lbs. of food and 70 lbs. of clothing to help support the mission for the Christmas season. The workers at the mission were very grateful for our support and were able to put the donations to immediate use. Thank you again for your support, Maddy Schreffler

Thank you so much for all the ways you showed concern for me. I've recently started a 3 month break from immunotherapy treatment. My body needs a rest and time for healing. I should expect to feel better in a month. I appreciate every phone call, every email and card, every meal and most of all - every prayer. You are truly a caring congregation. I am very blessed to be part of it.

Connie Johnson



## Eggs Making Has Begun!

We have begun making eggs! With much discussion we will not be making Butter Cream Eggs but we are making our Peanut Butter Eggs and our Coconut Eggs. As much as we need help in making the eggs we also need help in **selling the eggs!** Again this year, we will be providing written information about our program to anyone interested in selling eggs. Last year our profit was down because of leftover eggs that weren't sold, so please help sell the eggs also. Please keep our egg project in your prayers. Thank you, Julie Drake, Chair Bunny.



## In-Betweeners

The In-Betweeners will be going to see "Jesus" at the Sight & Sound Theatre in Lancaster, PA on Saturday, September 28<sup>th</sup>. We will have dinner prior to the show at Huckleberry's Restaurant, also in Lancaster. See the sign-up sheet in the Narthex for more information. Please contact Dan or Anneke in person or call 717-652-8367 with any questions.



## A Word on Stewardship

So, as you may know, this year at the synod assembly in June, our synod will be electing a bishop. It may be that the Holy Spirit moves the assembly to re-elect Bishop James Dunlop, or perhaps the Spirit moves the assembly in a new direction with the election of a new bishop. It waits to be seen.

It preparation for synod assembly, we recently had a conference meeting where the pastors and voting members (if congregations already had their designated voting members) met to learn about the process of electing a bishop. During that meeting we were given a description of what the bishop is supposed to do. Here is a portion of that job description: “The bishop leads our synod to focus on proclaiming the Gospel, employing missional imagination, exhibiting ‘holy’ experimentation and taking risks where others might withdraw.”

I really like that wording: “...employing missional imagination...exhibiting ‘holy’ experimentation...taking risks where others might withdraw...” In my estimation that is the job description of every baptized Christian whether they are the bishop or not. It is the job description of every human being, whether Christian or not. In the story of Creation, human beings are created in the image of God. And, biblical scholars and laypeople alike have argued about what exactly it means to be “created in the image of God.” One idea is that as God is creator, so, too, are we as human beings supposed to be creative. Creativity is therefore the part and parcel to being human.

Creativity means that we are to be imaginative. Creativity means we are to experiment. Creativity means we are to take risks. Being a good steward of our given humanness means we are to exercise our creativity—imagination, experimentation, risk-taking, and all.

The church needs to be creative more than ever right now. With the decline in membership in mainline denominations, with the average age of congregations increasing, with many congregations in survival mode, we need to be imagining new ways to do ministry. We need to be experimenting and taking risks. We need to re-think how we do “church”? We need to become a new creation.

How do we do this? It begins with prayer, and it continues with a lot of conversation with one another. It necessitates our willingness to share ideas and brainstorm with our church leadership. It requires most of all just the littlest bit of faith and vision on our part to say, “We haven’t done that before. Why not try it?”

Yes, sisters and brothers in Christ, we were made to be creative. Let your creativity shine through, and by the power of God’s grace, God will re-create us so as to show us the future he has in store of us. Jeremiah 29:11 says: “For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

## Synod Assembly Voting Members Needed

We are **in need of two voting members**, preferably one male & one female, to go to the Synod Assembly held at Messiah College June 6-8, 2019. If you are interested please see Pastor Joel.



## Don't Forget!

Daylight Savings Time begins Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup>. Don't forget to turn your clocks ahead 1 hour before you go to sleep on March 9<sup>th</sup>!



**Dear Padre,**

What are the “church festival” Sundays or festivals celebrated other than on Sundays? How are they celebrated in the Lutheran Church, and at Our Saviour? Is there a list of them?

Signed, “Just Wondering”



Dear “Just Wondering,”

In the *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (ELW) hymnal there is a church calendar on pages 14 through 17. The calendar notes the Sundays and Principal Festivals for the church year, as well as the Lesser Festival and Commemorations. Another good resource is a book called *Festivals and Commemorations—Handbook to the Calendar in the Lutheran Book of Worship* by Philip H. Pfatteicher.

The Sundays and Principal Festivals are celebrated by the Lutheran Church and Our Saviour, using the particular “Propers” for each Sunday or festival. The Propers include the lessons and Prayer of the Day for that given day in the lectionary cycle A, B, or C. These Propers are noted as well in the ELW (see pages 18-53).

On occasion when a lesser festival falls on a Sunday, a congregation may choose to focus on the festival or not. For instance, last year March 25 was Palm Sunday. But March 25 also marks the Annunciation of our Lord. We could have chosen to use the Propers for the Annunciation on that day, but did not do so for obvious reasons. When a lesser festival or commemoration falls on a Sunday, most congregations at the very least will make mention of it in the prayers. So, you may have heard me include unusual names when we offer a prayer of remembrance for those who have died. Those unusual names are saint(s) who are commemorated on that given Sunday. Typically, here at Our Saviour, we follow the Propers on the *Celebrate* insert we receive for each Sunday. The Propers for the Lesser Festival, Commemorations, and Occasions are noted in the ELW on pages 54-63.

I hope this answers your question. Thanks for “just wondering.”

Signed, Padre

Dear Padre,

Why do the versions of the Apostles’ Creed and Nicene Creed in the *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (ELW) hymnal differ from those in the *With One Voice* (WOV) hymnal?

Signed, “Creed Reader”

Dear “Creed Reader”,

While many of the differences in the text (wording, punctuation, etc.) from one version of a creed to another likely result from an ongoing effort to make each new version of the text flow more easily, there are some differences that arise for other reasons. For instance, in the WOV hymnal the Nicene Creed reads, “...by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man...” Whereas, the Nicene Creed in the ELW hymnal reads, “.....was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human...” The change from “made man” to “became truly human” emphasizes that Jesus was not created (i.e. “made”). Jesus (or, the Word, we could say) is eternal, and being “made” implies that there was a time when Jesus was not in existence. The other emphasis here is on Jesus becoming “truly human,” such as to emphasize his humanity as oppose to emphasizing his sex as a “man.”

In the Apostles’ Creed in the WOV hymnal it says, “He descended into hell.” In the Apostle’s Creed in the ELW hymnal it says, “He descended to the dead.” My guess is that the latter version of the Apostles’ Creed in the ELW wanted to soften the language. (We don’t like to think of the dead in hell.) But as noted in both the WOV hymnal and the ELW hymnal either version (dead or hell) is in widespread use.

Variations of the Creeds are interesting to look at for the very reason of examining their differences and

what that has to say about the theology of a particular variation. It may be of interest for you to look at the versions of the Nicene Creed as found in the Roman Catholic Church (Latin Church), the Ruthenian Catholic Church, the Coptic Church, among others, and compare them to our version. Do the same with variations of the Apostles' Creed. They will shed light on how subtle differences change our perspective of God.

Thanks for your question.

Signed, Padre



Bobbi Roach	3/1	Linda Schreier	3/22
Julie Pitassi	3/3	Edward Seneca	3/23
Suzanne Reilly	3/3	Daniel Kreischer	3/26
Connor Landis	3/4	Daniel Logan	3/26
Benny Cooper	3/6	Heidi Haas	3/31
Hannah Logan	3/7		
Jennifer Halfond	3/8		
Bob Lisse	3/9		
Craig Miller	3/10		
Jessica Miller	3/11		
John Zimmerman	3/12		
Fay Nelms	3/16		
Samantha Ingavo	3/17		
Lanier McIntyre	3/18		
Ethan Stump	3/19		
Kenzie Koppenhaver	3/20		

***Evangelical Lutheran Church of Our Saviour  
Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting  
January 9, 2019***

**Members Present:** Pastor Joel Petruschke, President John Zimmerman, Vice President Herb Logan, Treasurer Jim Lubrecht, Arno Miller, Jessica Logan, Kathy Sheetz, and Anneke Fleming

**Members Absent:** Secretary Andrea Faber, Nancy Pinko, and Joan Bateman

**Call to Order:** Pastor Joel called the meeting to order at 6:30pm and opened the meeting by leading the Council in a devotion. Pastor Joel asked every member to share their favorite Christmas gift. Pastor Joel reminded us to be mindful of the gifts we have been given from God and led the group in prayer.

**Amendment to Minutes from previous Council Meeting – Dec 2018:** It was confirmed that the Easter Egg Project will begin on Feb. 6, 2019.

**Minutes:** A motion was made by Pastor Joel, seconded by Arno Miller, to approve the minutes. Without objection, the motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** Report was discussed. We closed 2018 with a \$34,000 deficit. Possible causes are that we had significantly less income this year (GermanFest and Egg Project were low) and low Christmas contributions. We are also showing higher expenses. Slight changes were made to the budget for 2019. Jim will make the changes before the congregational meeting on Jan. 20, 2019.

A motion to approve the treasurer's report was made by Anneke Fleming, seconded by Arno Miller. Without objection, the motion carried.

**Christian Education:** The Souper Bowl will be held on Feb. 3, 2019. Thrivent provides the church, via debit card, with \$250. This money will be used to buy soup ingredients and other event supplies. Donated soups are also appreciated.

**Fund Raising:** Report attached and made part of the record.

**Property:** No report was submitted, but email was sent from Nancy detailing the cleaning requirements for the church. At this time John asked to discuss the new business regarding the cleaning of the church. At this time, it was decided that we will not hire a new sexton. We are looking into having Paxton Ministries clean on a more regular basis (general cleaning 3x per month with a deep/thorough cleaning 1x per month). For the interim, Dawn Veet offered her assistance. We will also reach out to the congregation to assist in the cleaning of the church until we have all of the details figured out. Herb suggested we gather a group to take care of the mowing of the lawn to help cut down on costs. John would also like to get a quote from the snow removal company to see how much they would charge to mow. We would like to check into purchasing a Rumba vacuum for the sanctuary (this would be a wish list item). It was decided we will have a luncheon to recognize Dave and Alta for all their years of service. Details to be planned at a later time.

A motion was made by John to not yet hire a replacement sexton. We are going to seek outside services and ask for assistance from the congregation in the interim to clean the church. The motion was seconded by Jim. Without objection, the motion carried.

**Hall Rental:** Pastor Joel was approached by a group that would like to rent out the Fellowship Hall for their Martial Arts program. Pastor Joel submitted a written report detailing what the group was looking for. This would be a possible source of income for the church and would bring new people into our church which may lead to new members. Concerns were discussed. We would use partitions to block off areas where we would not want people to go. Margaret is willing to move chimes practice to a different location in the church, but the group would have to work with the egg making teams who use the facility at the times they wish to hold their classes. The group may need to cancel class due to snow and our parking lot not being cleared. We would need an emergency contact person for facility problems (possibly Brad Neil). We would like to restrict their class size to 30 for now. We are also asking for a flat rate of \$100 rent per month. Pastor Joel will take all of these notes back to the leaders of the Martial Arts group and will share discussion and results with the members of Council.

A motion was made by John to allow the Martial Arts group to rent the Fellowship Hall for a probation period of 3 months, beginning no earlier than March 1, 2019. The group must provide a deposit of \$100 and the first month's rent (\$100) totaling \$200. They will then pay a flat rate of \$100 per month, possibly more after the probationary period; however, this will require reassessment by Council. Six Council members voted yes and two members (Jim and Arno) voted no.

**Welcome:** No report submitted.

**Worship and Music:** Meeting not yet held. They plan to discuss changing Christmas service times. Possibly starting one Sunday service.

**Child Protection Policy:** No report submitted.

**Social Ministry:** No report submitted. Still working on Lenten Project and Lunch Bunch to meet.

**Stewardship:** No report submitted.

**Pastor:** Report submitted. Scholarship requirements are ready to take to the congregation for approval. With the change to the Scholarship program, bylaws will need to be revised. Memorial Fund Policy- develop form for people to add items to the wish list. Otherwise, the policy is ready to take to the congregation for approval. Pastor Joel will work with someone to bring our constitution up to date.

**Advoc Update:** Starting mediation meetings. Possible dates for leadership training. Feb. 10 or 17. Pastor will work on setting this up. Those invited: all Council members, Hope Bowling, Deb Flage, committee chairs, and mutual ministry.

A motion was made by Arno Miller to accept all committee report and was seconded by Jessica Logan. Without objection, the motion carried.

**New Business:**

Margaret would like to talk with Council about bringing her dogs to church.

Pastor Joel reported that his first semester is completed and that Mary is doing better.

A motion to adjourn was made by Anneke Fleming and seconded by Kathy Sheetz. Without objection, the motion carried.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer

Submitted by Jessica Logan (filling in for Andrea Faber- Council Secretary)

**Lenten "Souper" Suppers/Evening Prayer** will be held Wednesday evenings during Lent, beginning March 13, 2019, at 6:30 P.M. in the St. Peter and St. Paul rooms of Good Shepherd followed by an evening prayer service in the chapel at 7:30 P.M. During this season of self-denial, prayer, and penance, plan to make this Wednesday evening event a part of your Lenten journey. Join with members and friends of Good Shepherd and Our Saviour as we gather at 6:30 P.M. for a simple meal of delicious homemade soups and breads followed by evening prayer. As we are responsible for the soup on March 20<sup>th</sup> and April 3<sup>rd</sup>, there are sign-up sheets in the Narthex for those who would like to help supply the soup.

Also, so that Good Shepherd has an approximate count of how many to prepare for we are asking that you put your name down on the weekly sign-up sheet if you plan to attend.



**Let's think about camp!**

We have received the new camping corp. brochures for the upcoming 2019 summer programs. They are on the table in the Narthex. Camping is not just for children. They offer family camp & elders camp. Pick one up & check out all that is being offered this year!



**Jobs are available**

In addition to offering summer camping for campers the Lutheran Camping Corp. also offers summer employment for high school & college students such as: counselors, lifeguards, kitchen staff, craft staff and maintenance. More information about these opportunities is available at [LutheranCamping.org/employment](http://LutheranCamping.org/employment).

### ***Lenten Collection for 2019***

The Social Ministry Committee is sponsoring a Lenten Collection for 2019. This year we are asking members to donate an item each week for the "Humane Society Of Harrisburg Area". The Humane Society is a non-profit organization and does not receive municipal funds but relies solely on donations.

Items for collection -

Week One - 3/10/2019 - Kitten Canned food

Week Two - 3/17/2019 - Dog canned food

Week Three - 3/24/2019 - A roll of paper towels

Week Four - 3/31/2019 - Small Animal treats

Week Five - 4/7/2019 - Ziploc sandwich baggies

Week six - 4/14/2019 - Cat or Dog toys

A display is set up in the Narthex. The display will list items needed and samples will be displayed. Items will also be listed in the bulletin during Lent. Thank you to the congregation who we know will be generously helping with our collection.

Any questions, please see Nadine Martin or Donna Miller.



# MARCH

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 8 am - Egg Making
<b>3 - Epiphany 4</b> 8:30 am - Word & Sacrament 9:30 am - Sunday School 10:45 am - Word & Sacrament 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday Social Egg Making	<b>4</b> 8 am - Egg Making  6:30 pm - Welcome Committee	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>  2 pm - Egg Making 7 pm - Worship Choir follows	<b>7</b> 6 pm - Chimes Choir	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 8 am - Egg Making
<b>10 - Epiphany 5</b> 8:30 am - Word & Sacrament 9:30 am - Sunday School 10:45 am - Word & Sacrament Egg Making	<b>11</b> 8 am - Egg Making	<b>12</b> 1:00 pm - Bible Study 6:30 pm - Council	<b>13</b> 2 pm - Egg Making 6:30 pm - Soup Meal @Good Shepherd 7:30 pm - Evening Prayer follows 7 pm - Choir	<b>14</b> 6 pm - Chimes Choir	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 8 am - Egg Making
<b>17 - Epiphany 6</b> 8:30 am - Word & Sacrament 9:30 am - Sunday School 10:45 am - Word & Sacrament Egg Making <b>newsletter deadline</b>	<b>18</b> 8 am - Egg Making	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 2 pm - Egg Making 6:30 pm - Soup Meal @Good Shepherd 7:30 pm - Evening Prayer follows 7 pm - Choir	<b>21</b> 6 pm - Chimes Choir	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 8 am - Egg Making
<b>24 - Epiphany 7</b> 8:30 am - Word & Sacrament 9:30 am - Sunday School 10:45 am - Word & Sacrament Egg Making	<b>25</b> 8 am - Egg Making	<b>26</b> 1:00 pm - Bible Study	<b>27</b> 2 pm - Egg Making 6:30 pm - Soup Meal @Good Shepherd 7:30 pm - Evening Prayer follows 7 pm - Choir	<b>28</b> 6 pm - Chimes Choir	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 8 am - Egg Making
<b>31</b> 8:30 am - Word & Sacrament 9:30 am - Sunday School 10:45 am - Word & Sacrament Egg Making 3-10 pm - Private Event						

The Evangelical Lutheran  
**CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOUR**  
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Web Site: [www.oslutheranharrisburg.org](http://www.oslutheranharrisburg.org)



*Mission Statement*

Our Saviour Lutheran Church, a caring congregation dedicated to the word of Christ, welcomes all people to worship and to grow with us as we share His love and salvation with our neighbors, our children and ourselves.

*Worship*

8:30 am & 10:45 am  
Holy Eucharist is celebrated  
every Sunday.  
Sunday School 9:30 am

*Church Office*

9:00 am -12:00 pm Monday through Friday

Phone: 717-545-9992  
Email: [ossec@comcast.net](mailto:ossec@comcast.net)  
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God's work. Our hands.