



Shepherd's Notes

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Lent is here. Our Mid-Week Lenten services will focus on the Sermon on the Mount. Below is our schedule. Please note: Time has been changed to 1:30.

Lent

W Q K P G N I T S A F P K V K F L
 P O A S H W E D N E S D A Y C Z R
 S N R E C I F I R C A S T N R K L
 R S L R V Z K Y N B N N S N U K B
 H C E W O F X P G N E E M O C E D
 M R P N H S J B G L H F X I I E N
 C X C N E F Y N P S T P G T F W J
 V R G W B V I M A P E R N A I Y Q
 T N O B M R I P T A P A I I X L J
 P R H S P N T G S H M Y V L I O K
 L E L S S Q P T R R K E I I O H W
 B N N L Q R E F M O K R G C N V B
 Z X N A E R G K T C F K S N H R C
 B R N P N R F B L T C F M O C K K
 T K A F B C J N K L K K L C P M Q
 W R N M Y L E X C R Q C A E L V J
 E L M E D I T A T I O N Y R Q F C

almsgiving
 ashes
 ash wednesday
 cross
 crucifixion
 easter
 fasting
 forgiveness
 holy week

lent
 meditation
 penance
 prayer
 prepare
 reconciliation
 sacrifice
 sorrow
 spring

Wednesday, March 6 – SOTP/BETHEL

Blessed Are You • Matthew 5:1-11: We who are poor in spirit, who mourn, and who hunger and thirst for righteousness are called blessed by our Savior in his Sermon on the Mount. Ash Wednesday reminds us that though we have been brought low by sin, our Lord will bless us with new life in him through the cross.

Wednesday, March 13 – SOTP/GOSHEN

Salt and Light • Matthew 5:13-16: Christ calls us to be salt and light in this world of sin. We who have tasted and seen his great love for us on the cross can spend our Lent savoring his salvation and shining with his glory and grace in the places where he has put us.

Wednesday, March 20 – SOTP/CANAAN

Prayer and Fasting • Matthew 6:5-18: Lent is a season of prayer and fasting. We grow in our relationship with Christ by communicating with him, and we learn more about him and ourselves by giving up those things that can distract us from our connection to him.

Wednesday, March 27 – SOTP/BETHEL

Do Not Worry • Matthew 6:25-34: So much of our lives is spent worrying about what might happen or what has happened. Christ teaches us to stop being anxious, but simply to trust that he knows what is best and will take care of us to the very end.

Wednesday, April 3 – SOTP/CANAAN

Judge Not • Matthew 7:1-5: We live in a very judgmental world, so Jesus' advice not to judge sounds radical to our modern ears. When we leave all judgment up to God, we free ourselves to look at one another through fresh and forgiving eyes.

Wednesday, April 10 – SOTP/GOSHEN

Build on Rock • Matthew 7:24-27: We build our lives on very shaky foundations, and then we are surprised when things start collapsing. Jesus reminds us in his teachings that the only solid foundation is himself, the Rock of our salvation. On him alone we build.

Pastor Eric

Women's News

Prayers for the Community & the World

Lynn Dixon, Jacob Brown, Connie Asquith, Fern Softling, Grace Hansen, Lloyd Heller, Rich Ellsworth, Ann LaFortune, Judy Belter, Luella Laske, Judy Roark, Sarah Fries, Gavin Maus, Brian Favorit, Jolanta Czernek, Pete Lindstrom, Darrol Schroeder, Dorothy Scilley, Monte Baumgarten, Barbara Giesler, Loretta Bernhoft, Allen Marquardt, Harold Piper, Kent Jensen, Mary Gross, Kurt Bernstein, Rev. Hermann and Susan Weinlick

We remember all of our servicemen and servicewomen.

We remember the people affected by natural disasters.

We remember all those affected by
terrorism and violence.

Lord, hear our prayer...

*This world needs to remember you and return to you, God,
when we use force to bend others to our will,
when we abuse and harm others because they are different,
when we forget that you love them, too,
we need you to remind us and heal us.*

*This world needs to remember you and return to you, God,
when we get so caught up in our own dreams and wants,
that we allow others to live in hunger and need,
when we forget that we are all connected,
we need you to remind us and heal us.*

*This world needs to remember you and return to you, God,
when we lose our ability to care for those who are sick and grieving,
to comfort those who are alone and rejected,
to stand up for those who are treated unjustly,
we need you to remind us and heal us.*

*Make us part of the healing of the world, Jesus,
through our prayers,
through lives lived in worship and service,
through these hearts that we give to you.*

*In Jesus' Name
Amen*

<http://sacredise.com/prayers/season/lent/remembering-and-returning/>

A guest speaker from Down Home, a ministry that provides new items for families transitioning out of homelessness, gave a special presentation during worship on Sunday, February, 17. After worship, a lunch was served and our sponsorship papers and monies raised were presented—OVER THE GOAL OF \$3,000!!

Church Women United will meet at Shepherd of the Prairie on Friday, March 1 at 9:30 AM.

Their next meeting will be on Friday, April 5 at 11:00 AM at St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 355 6th Ave. S, Fargo.

Cost: \$5.00

During worship and church council on Sunday, January 27, we talked about having love in our hearts, but having difficulty discerning the spirit. Over the next few weeks, we will be learning about spiritual gifts. We'll find out some results that might shock us, or may affirm. At the end of our discussions, each of us will take a "Spiritual Gifts Inventory." We will use the results of these inventories to continue to discern the ministry that Christ has set apart for us.

You may be thinking, "What gifts?" This is not an exhaustive list, but these are the ones we will be discussing: Abstaining; Administration; Apostle; Creative Ability; Discernment; Encouragement; Evangelism; Exorcism; Faith; Giving; Healing; Helps; Hospitality; Intercession; Tongues and Interpretation; Knowledge; Leadership; Martyrdom; Mercy; Miracles; Missionary; Pastoring; Prophecy; Service; Teaching; Voluntary Poverty' and Wisdom.





We had a fun month at the Shepherd's Christian Preschool. February was dental health month so we talked about the importance of good dental health.

We celebrated love and friendship with a Valentine party and the preschoolers exchanged valentines with each other. We ended the month with a silly day. Everyone dressed silly and fixed their hair silly. We tried saying some tongue twisters, told jokes, and laughed a lot.

The Bible verse for February was, "You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind." - Matthew 22:37

The Shepherd's Christian Preschool

Scouting Ministries

February is the month that we celebrate and honor our scouting ministries.

On Sunday, February 10, Cub Scout Pack 200 will be here. During worship, they gave a special presentation. Following worship, as they have for so many years, they served and cooked a wonderful a pancake brunch.

Since worship was cancelled on Sunday, March 3, the Girl Scout Troop will be here to sell cookies following worship.

Please consider supporting the various scouting ministries!!



MARCH LECTIONARY READINGS

Sunday, March 3

Last Sunday after the Epiphany
Transfiguration Sunday
Exodus 34:29-35; Psalm 99
2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2; Luke 9:28-36, (37-43)

Sunday, March 10th

First Sunday in Lent
Deuteronomy 26:1-11; Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16
Romans 10:8b-13; Luke 4:1-13

Sunday, March 17th

Second Sunday in Lent
Genesis 15:1-12; Psalm 27
Philippians 3:17-4:1; Luke 13:31-35

Sunday, March 24th

Third Sunday in Lent
Isaiah 55:1-9; Psalm 63:1-8
1 Corinthians 10:1-13; Luke 13:1-9

Sunday, March 31st

Fourth Sunday in Lent
Joshua 5:9-12; Psalm 32
2 Corinthians 5:16-21; Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Please note: Pastor Eric will not be preaching from the lectionary during the weeks of "Spiritual Gifts Study." These are provided for those of you who study the lectionary.



Announcements

Your "One-Stop" Place for the "Goings-On"

2019 CONGREGATIONAL WATCHWORD

"A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you."—Ezekiel 36:26.

Church Women United will hold their next meeting at Shepherd of the Prairie on Friday, March 1, at 9:30am.

Friday, March 1 marks the **562nd Anniversary of the Untas Fratrum (Worldwide Moravian Church)**.

Our **Midweek Lenten Series** will begin on Ash Wednesday, March 6 at 1:30 pm.

We will celebrate the **Sacrament of Holy Communion in observation of the First Sunday in Lent** during worship on Sunday, March 10.

Daylight Savings Time begins on Sunday, March 10.

Bible Study continues on Mondays at 1pm.

Confirmation will be held on Sunday, March 17.

Video Studies are on hiatus through Lent.

The **Joint Board** will meet on Thursday, March 28.

Monthly Breakfast Opportunities!!

SOTP Women's Breakfast
Saturday, March 16—1 :00 PM
Fargo Fryn' Pan

ND Men's Breakfast
Saturday, March 30— 8:00 AM
Deaner's Diner in West Fargo



Get Connected

Joyful Noise Offering — We take this loose change offering on the first Sunday of every month. The proceeds from this offering will help fund our camping ministries fund.

The Food Collection basket—Please bring food items to feed the homeless. The Lord says, "What you do for the least of these my brothers and sisters, you do unto me." We collect them on the last Sunday of the month and deliver it to the Fargo Emergency Food Pantry.

Cancellation of Worship/Church Events

We are entering that time of year again when it might be possible that worship service or other church events may be cancelled due to weather conditions. If inclement weather causes a cancellation, an announcement will be sent to all local radio and television stations. An announcement will also be posted to Shepherd of the Prairie's Facebook page as well.

Having trouble getting to church on Sundays?

If there is a Sunday where you need assistance making it to worship and are in need a ride, please call the church office, and we may be able to connect you with someone in your area.

Pastor Eric's Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 9:00—2:00 pm

Please Note: There may be times when Pastor Eric is not at the church due to pastoral visits, clergy meetings, etc. Please call the church or Pastor Eric directly at 701-318-7150, prior to coming to make sure that he is available.

**DON'T FORGET TO SET
CLOCKS AHEAD ONE HOUR
FOR SUNDAY, MARCH 10**