

From the Pastor . . .

"We find God in ourselves, and we find ourselves in God"

Teresa of Avilla

We are about to enter the season of Lent in the church calendar. That time when we focus on Jesus' journey to the cross and ultimately into the resurrection of Easter. For many of us this has been a time for giving things up, and there is some good practice in this, but why do we do it? The quote above from Teresa of Avilla has been ruminating around my brain for the last few weeks because in its essence, it invites us into the relationship we are seeking in this time of focus on our faith. Lent is a time to focus on who you are as a uniquely and wonderfully created child of God, but it's also a time to see that we are so much more when we embrace the gift of God's community, grace and faith.

Join us as we examine this relationship through the parables of Jesus on Sunday mornings and the great healings of Jesus on Wednesday nights. Come and be a part of this wonderful opportunity to find God in you and to find yourself in God.

Peace,
Pastor Brent

SUNDAYS in Lent

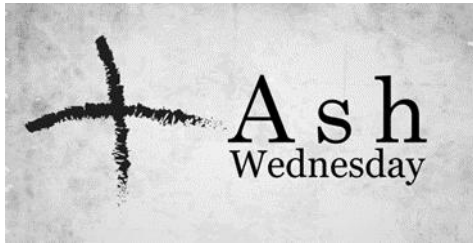
The Ways of the Kingdom

Jesus teaches that in God's kingdom, things are different than we might expect. Sometimes it even seems as though it is opposite or upside down when we hear that the last will be first and the first will be last, and the greatest in the kingdom are ones who serve others. In God's kingdom, mercy is greater than fairness, and grace abounds. As disciples, we are called to be extravagantly generous and relentlessly forgiving, learning that these are the ways of God and God's kingdom. Entrusted with many gifts and lavish grace, we learn to live out these kingdom ways, sharing God's love and promises with others and using all that we have been given to bring glory to God.



Sundays in Lent

- March 10 *"Unforgiving Servant"*
- March 17 *"Laborers in the Vineyard"*
- March 24 *"Wedding Banquet"*
- March 31 *"Parable of the Talents"*
- April 7 *"Sheep and Goats"*



**Ash Wednesday Worship
March 6th**

We begin our Lenten journey with Ash Wednesday. This service is an invitation to observe a Holy Lent through the practices of prayer, worship, service, the sacraments and community. Join us at 7:00 pm on March 6th as we start our journey towards Easter. This will be appropriate for all ages.



Community Art Project

During Lent we will be creating a community art piece. Come and be a part of this opportunity to create our faith together.

First Communion

On Saturday, April 13th from 9:00am-12:00pm we will have a first communion class for those 1st grade and older, or those whose parents feel their child is ready. This is a time for both the youth and their parents.

First communion will take place on April 18th at 7:00pm during our Maundy Thursday worship when Jesus gave this gift to his disciples. Please contact Pastor Brent if you are interested in being part of this group or sign up on the bulletin board.

**Wednesdays in Lent
Acting Up in Faith
March 13—April 10**

The bible and its stories often seem to disconnect from of our lives, but Jesus reminds us over and over that his story is part of our story. Join as we look at his healing stories and see that we can both be part of helping others and how we can be renewed ourselves. This will be done through fun, laughter, and some impromptu theater that we want everyone to be a part of. Come and bring the whole family this will be for all ages.



Soup supper 6:00pm

Worship 6:40pm

Youth and Small Groups 7:15pm



We need help with food for the Soup Suppers! Please sign up to bring soup, sandwiches, dessert, or other items on the bulletin board or on the website.

- March 13 - Soul Sisters
Lori Knoke /Jenn Hatlestad
- March 20 - Music Ministries
Deb Capener/Mary Wescott/Laura Porter Jones
- March 27 - Church Council
Josi Hellier/Annie Yolitz
- April 3 - Men's Ministries
Maury Bartz/Pastor Brent
- April 10 - Woman's Bible and Book Club
Linda Bartz/Lori Knoke/Janie Wegleitner

Narrative Lectionary Readings for March

March 3

Sunday, Matthew 16:24—17:8
Monday, Psalm 41:7-10 Psalm
Tuesday, Matthew 13:47-53, *Parables of Jesus*
Wednesday, Matthew 18:1-9, *Who Is the Greatest?*
Thursday, Psalm 146:7c-10, Psalm
Friday, Psalm 51:1-3, Psalm
Saturday, Matthew 13:54-58, *Rejection of Jesus at Nazareth*

March 10

Sunday, Matthew 18:15-35
Monday, Psalm 32:1-2 Psalm
Tuesday, Matthew 14:1-12, *Death of John the Baptist*
Wednesday, Matthew 14:34-15:9, *Teachings of Jesus*
Thursday, Matthew 15:10-20, *Teachings of Jesus*
Friday, Matthew 15:21-28, *Teachings of Jesus*
Saturday, Matthew 15:29-39, *Teachings of Jesus*

March 17

Sunday, Matthew 20:1-16
Monday, Psalm 16:5-8, Psalm
Tuesday, Matthew 16:1-12, *Teachings of Jesus*
Wednesday, Matthew 16:13-23, *Jesus Foretells His Death*
Thursday, Matthew 17:9-27, *Teachings of Jesus*
Friday, Matthew 18:10-14, *Parables of Jesus*
Saturday, Matthew 19:1-30, *Teachings of Jesus*

March 24

Sunday, Matthew 22:1-14
Monday, Psalm 45:6-7, Psalm
Tuesday, Matthew 20:17-34, *Works of Jesus*
Wednesday, Matthew 21:18-22, *The Fig Tree*
Thursday, Matthew 21:23-27, *The Authority of Jesus Questioned*
Friday, Matthew 21:28-32, *Parables of Jesus*
Saturday, Matthew 21:33-46, *Parables of Jesus*

March 31

Sunday, Matthew 25:1-13
Monday, Psalm 43:3-4, Psalm
Tuesday, Matthew 22:15-33, *Questions for Jesus*
Wednesday, Matthew 22:34-46, *The Greatest Commandment*
Thursday, Matthew 23:1-36, *Woes*
Friday, Matthew 23:37-39, *Lament over Jerusalem*
Saturday, Matthew 24:1-28, *Teachings of Jesus*

Adult Ed

Join us in the conference room from 10:45am -11:30am at the west end of the church for conversation about timely topics of faith, culture, and life. Look in each week's bulletin for the topic.

Men's Breakfast Saturday, March 16 8:30am-9:30am

Join us for good food, conversation, and some time of service. This month we will be packing sandwiches for people experiencing homelessness.



Usher Training

As we continue to look at safety in our community we ask that all those that are or wish to be ushers to join us for one of four training sessions.

March 3 @ 10:45 am

March 24 @ 8:30 am

April 7 @10:45 am

Contact the church office with any questions.



We will kick off our Socks and Underwear drive on March 10th and end on **Palm Sunday, April 14th** with an **Undie Sunday**.

The Drawer will also be a partner with Family of Christ. Beginning this month they will move much of their collection and distribution to a storage area in the bottom level of the church.



Thank you for all your help with this year's South Metro Meal Pack. Despite the weather, the South metro Churches packed over 1.3 Million meals and we at Family of Christ raised over \$1400!

SOUL SISTERS

Mark your calendars for the Soul Sister's upcoming events:

Host Lenten Soup Supper: March 13

Please see church website to sign up to help and bring food.

General Store: Saturday, March 30

Meet at FOC at 9:30am and car pool to the General Store for shopping and lunch. We will return back to church around 1pm.

Spring Luncheon: Saturday, May 4

Advance tickets only - \$20 online prior to April 28, or at church following worship April 7th, 14th or 28th. Proceeds support *360 Communities*.



LUTHER PARK CAMPING OPPORTUNITIES 2019

Attention Family of Christ kids and parents!

We have designated two special weeks at Luther Park for FOC kids to sign up and attend camp with their church friends!

- * June 21-24, 2019: half week for 1-4th graders
- * July 21-26, 2019: full week for 3-6th in the Cabins
- * July 21-26, 2019: full week 7-12th graders in The Treehouse

Go to www.lutherpark.com to register.

\$150 scholarship will be given to each camper.



YOUTH

Welcome to Amy McGrew

our Interim Youth and Family Minister.



Over 20 years ago, Amy McGrew embarked on a lifelong commitment to invest in the next generation and their leaders. Amy has been on staff in small to mega churches—in children's, middle school, high school and college-age ministries. She received an M.A. in Youth Ministry from Asbury Theological Seminary. In addition to working as an Associate for InterServe, she is the Director of Training at Youth Leadership where she plans and implements training events, conferences and their online certification program. She also works as a pharmacy technician for CVS. In her free time she serves as a Spiritual Director providing opportunities to notice and respond to God's invitations in the midst of everyday life. She loves to read and travel, and is a fan of hammocks, sheep, K-pop and Korean television shows.

Wednesday Night Youth Classes

Beginning on March 13th all Wednesday night classes will start with soup supper at 6:00, go to worship at 6:40 and continue with class or youth group from 7:15-8:00pm. Families are invited to join them as we will have activities for all ages during the 7:15-8:00pm education times. Youth will also be leading pieces of the worship and ushering.

5-12th Grade Youth Overnight, March 15th - 16th From Friday 6:30pm to Saturday 8:30am

DON'T MISS THIS FUN NIGHT OF GAMES, SERVICE, & HANGING OUT

Cost is \$10 per person for beverages, prizes and breakfast. Bring some snacks to share.

Signup sheet is on the bulletin board in the hall by the sanctuary. Youth Grades 5-12 are invited to join us on March 15 for a night of fun and service. We will be heading over to FMSC so bring closed toed shoes.

Sign up on Wednesday night or on the youth bulletin board.

If you can only come for some of Friday night because of Saturday activities that's just fine.

Chili Cook-Off

Thanks to all those that helped make this day so successful.

Congratulations to our winners:

Traditional Chili- Stella and Brian Boroff

Corn Bread - Kris King Fenn

Non Traditional Chili-Angie and Abe Davidson

Grand Champion- Nick Hendrickson

First Communion Training

First Communion Classes will be held April 13th. If your youth would like to be a part of this contact Pastor Brent. Usual first communion at FOC is for those 1st grade and older. First Communion this year will be on Maundy Thursday, April 18th at 7:00 pm.

SAVE THE DATE VBS - June 9-13

CLAIMED: Wildly Loved By God

This summer at camp learn about your identity in Jesus Christ! Throughout scripture, God constantly reminds us that we are God's children, and that we are claimed and wildly loved by Jesus. At camp this summer, explore our identity in Christ by studying who God says we are compared to who the world pushes us to be. This year we will be partnering with Christus Victor Lutheran in Apple Valley and camp counselors for Lake Wapogasset Bible Camp. Camp will again be in the evening. Be on the look out for volunteer opportunities.



Mission of the Month

“THE DRAWER” collects and distribute NEW socks and underwear to men, women, and children. This grass roots ministry receives donations from community members, non-profits, and faith-based organizations. They also will provide training and support for organizations who wish to provide and distribute in their own ministry.

FINANCIAL UPDATE January 2019

Total income for the month was \$30,163
Total expenses for the month was \$28,248

FEBRUARY GIVING TO DATE

Date	Attendance	Sunday Giving	Electronic Giving	GENERAL FUND
02/03/2019	151	\$4,745	\$3,533	\$8,278
02/10/2019	124	\$2,031	\$2,598	\$4,629
02/17/2019	128	\$3,611	\$5,675	\$9,286

Women’s Bible Study

Monday, March 4
10:00am

Join us the first Monday of each month.



Men's Bible Studies:

Join us on Tuesday and Thursday mornings as we come together for fellowship, food and a chance to look at the scriptures and our lives.

- Tuesdays – 6:30 a.m.
- Thursdays – 8:00 a.m.

Family of Christ Staff Ministry Team:

Pastor: Brent Erler, Pastor
Interim Youth & Family Minister: Amy McGrew
Interim Children’s Minister: Cary Whittington
Musicians: Mary Wescott, Morgan Jones, Laura Porter-Jones, Jessica Christensen
Choir: Debra Capener
Administrative Asst: Linda Bauer
Custodian: Kelly Kritsberg

Family of Christ Lutheran Church is a member of the ELCA

Email us at: office@familyofchrist.com
Visit us at: www.familyofchrist.com
Telephone: 952-435-5757
Office Hours: 9:00-3:30 Tues—Thurs
Closed Monday & Friday

*“FoCus” is a monthly publication of Family of Christ Lutheran Church.
Please contact the church office to submit items for publication in our newsletter.*

March Family of Christ Servants

<u>Sunday</u> <u>03/03/19</u>	<u>Sunday</u> <u>03/10/19</u>	<u>Sunday</u> <u>03/17/19</u>	<u>Sunday</u> <u>03/24/19</u>	<u>Sunday</u> <u>03/31/19</u>
<u>AV Tech</u> Donny Bergquist	<u>AV Tech</u> Kris Smith	<u>AV Tech</u> Nathan Blilie	<u>AV Tech</u> Jeremy Mann	<u>AV Tech</u> Chris Flegel
<u>Closer</u> Mark Warner	<u>Closer</u> Mark Warner	<u>Closer</u> Lisa Cecchini	<u>Closer</u> Gerry Wills	<u>Closer</u> Brian Boroff
<u>Communion</u> <u>Server</u> Ed Hellier Josi Hellier Luke Hellier Brian Knoke Lori Knoke	<u>Communion</u> <u>Server</u> Jackie Knudsen Jeanne Miller Miles Miller Pete Nelson Kris Olsen	<u>Communion</u> <u>Server</u> Kathy Olson Carla Passon Scott Passon Betty Peterson Sandy Soukup	<u>Communion</u> <u>Server</u> Kris Smith Debbie Warner Mark Warner Annie Yolitz Brian Yolitz	<u>Communion</u> <u>Server</u> Karen Agee Mike Anderson Rhonda Arnold Kathy Derner Gerry Wills
<u>Communion Setup</u> Lori Knoke	<u>Communion Setup</u> Chad Specht	<u>Communion Setup</u> John Wicklund	<u>Communion Setup</u> Gerry Wills	<u>Communion Setup</u> Karen Agee
<u>Fellowship</u> Martha Johnson Angie Korsaa	<u>Fellowship</u> Karen Agee Barb Buswell	<u>Fellowship</u> Audrey Carlson Jenn Hatlestad	<u>Fellowship</u> Amy Hellier Betty Peterson	<u>Fellowship</u> Martha Johnson Kathy Olson
<u>Greeter</u> Jane Wegleitner Annie Yolitz	<u>Greeter</u> Youth Youth	<u>Greeter</u> Karen Agee Anna Simon	<u>Greeter</u> Becky Nystuen Ron Nystuen	<u>Greeter</u> Linda Bartz Maury Bartz
<u>Offering Count</u> Shirlee Benson Chuck Halvorson	<u>Offering Count</u> Ryan Basballe Lisa Cecchini	<u>Offering Count</u> Amie Hoffman Duane Hoffman	<u>Offering Count</u> Kevin Hatlestad Kris Smith	<u>Offering Count</u> Jim Schiprett Gerry Wills
<u>Opener</u> Gerry Wills	<u>Opener</u> Mark Warner	<u>Opener</u> Gerry Wills	<u>Opener</u> Mark Warner	<u>Opener</u> Lisa Cecchini
<u>Reader</u> Jim Korsaa	<u>Reader</u> Youth	<u>Reader</u> Josi Hellier	<u>Reader</u> Brian Knoke	<u>Reader</u> Sheila Ehrich
<u>Usher</u> Carla Passon Scott Passon	<u>Usher</u> 2 Youth Mark Warner	<u>Usher</u> Beth Wacholz John Wacholz	<u>Usher</u> Dave Olson Anna Simon	<u>Usher</u> Betty Peterson Marshall Peterson

If you make a change to the schedule, please contact Linda at linda@familyofchrist.com!



Family of Christ Lutheran Church

ELCA
10970 185th St W
Lakeville MN 55044
www.familyofchrist.com

Dates to Remember

- March 3 - Sunday Worship and Education
- March 6 - Ash Wednesday Service
- March 10 - Sunday Worship and Education
- March 13 - Soup Meal/Lenten Service
Youth & Small Group Classes
- March 15 - Youth Lock-In
- March 16 - Men's Breakfast
- March 17 - Sunday Worship and Education
- March 20 - Soup Meal/Lenten Service
Youth & Small Group Classes
- March 24 - Sunday Worship and Education
- March 27— Soup Meal/Lenten Service
Youth & Small Group Classes
- March 30 - Soul Sister's Trip to General Store
- March 31 - Sunday Worship and Education

Vision Statement

Family of Christ seeks to be a Grace filled family of God, living the Gospel through faith, love and compassion.



Our Core Values F-A-M-I-L-Y:

- Fait**
- Acc**
- Meaningful relationships**
- Imp**
- Love**
- Youth**