



Holy Cross Lutheran Church

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Making peace by the blood of his cross — Colossians 1:15-20

Grace, peace, and mercy to you from our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

This Lent we are focusing on mission and mercy. In that vein, I want to tell you the story of St. Patrick.

When we think of Patrick, we think of Ireland and Christianity and shamrocks, but Patrick's story has a different beginning. Indeed, he didn't take the name "Patrick" until years later when he was made a bishop. First called Succat, the man we know as Patrick was born into a wealthy family in Wales. His first voyage to Ireland was not as a missionary sent by the church. Irish pirates kidnapped and enslaved him as a teenager. He was shipped to northern Ireland and forced into the lonely labor of shepherding. Hungry and ill clothed, it was only at this time that Succat's faith in God awakened.

So, if you're following me, St. Patrick wasn't Patrick, wasn't Irish, wasn't even a believer, only traffic with shamrocks was as sheep fodder, and what he wanted most was to get out of Ireland!

That was his story for six years in slavery. When he was able to escape, the journey homeward was difficult and uncertain. When their boat landed, they were lost without food. His fellow travelers mocked him for his faith. "God will provide," he told them, and as he did a herd of pigs arrived (which suggests to me some alternative St. Patrick's day cuisine).

After all that, restored to his family, you might think Ireland would be the last place to which Patrick would ever want to return. But this is not the first time the Spirit has replaced the futile fixation on revenge with the joyful overflowing of mercy. In Acts 11, Jewish refugees landed in Antioch. When word of a famine reached them, they sent a collection back to Jerusalem where they had been run out of their own homes. They helped care for the very town that had run them out.

The Patrick we celebrate a millennium and a half later, in a land across an ocean, could have never been. He could have returned to the comfort of home and said that was enough drama for one life. But it was precisely the experience of being a "stranger in a strange land" (Hebrews 11:13-16) that led to a saint finding his eternal home in God.

When we go through our own hardships, may God give us the faith first to rest in Him and His provision. Then, may He alloy that faith with wisdom and hope so that what would have gnawed at our souls turns instead to overflow with grace to others. All those blessings are our Christian birthright in Jesus. Our Lenten gradual reminds us that it was "for the joy set before Him" that Jesus endured the cross (Hebrews 12:2). What He did alone for us, He will continue to do within us. All glory be to Him, or as St. Patrick puts it: "I bind unto myself today / The pow'r of God / to hold and lead, / His eye to watch, / His might to stay, / His ear to hearken to my need.... I bind unto myself today / The strong name of the Trinity!" (LSB 604).

Your servant in Christ,

Pastor Daniel Guagenti



Celebrations in March

BIRTHDAYS

6- Pastor Henry Loppnow
6- Jennifer Harrod
7- Patrick Carnes
11- Ian Feole
12- Meagan Chapman Knuckles
16- Joni Skellie
19- Courtney Chesher
22- Cindy Winchester- Howard
24- Barbara Eaton
26- Jax Yaroma
27- Barbara Dobring
27- Charlie Powell
28- Nathaniel Semeniuk
28- Zachary Semeniuk
30- Mark Murray

ANNIVERSARIES

7- Patrick & Mary Carnes (2003)

LENTEN WEDNESDAY SERVICES: 7PM

Lenten Wednesday services will accompany our Sunday morning Gospel readings from John. We'll see how Jesus' personal interactions range through the Gospel from the high and mighty to the lowly. Again and again, His grace is both a challenge and an invitation. Both Pastors Guagenti will take turns preaching on Wednesday nights. We have taken up the challenge to pray for every LCMS missionary each day of Lent. Each service we'll trade around the missionaries we have. If you haven't gotten a card, let us know.

LENT & HOLY WEEK 2020

FEBRUARY 26

5:30pm Lenten Meal
7pm Ash Wednesday Service

MARCH 4

7pm Lenten Service

MARCH 11

7pm Lenten Service

MARCH 18

7pm Lenten Service

MARCH 25

7pm Communion Service

APRIL 1

7pm Lenten Service

APRIL 4

7pm Jews for Jesus
Seder Demonstration

APRIL 5

11am Palm Sunday Service

APRIL 9

7pm Maundy Thursday Service

APRIL 10

7pm Good Friday Service

APRIL 12

11am Easter Day Service

VOTERS' MEETING: MARCH 15

There will be a Voters' Meeting on Sunday, March 15 following the Divine Service. The church council encourages you to attend.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY: SUNDAYS 9:45AM

The Sunday morning Bible class is covering Revelation. Come and join us!

Christ in the Passover

An Exploration of Passover,
The Last Supper, & Your
Communion Experience

#ChristInThePassover



On April 4th, at 7pm, Holy Cross will host "Christ in the Passover: A Presentation." this powerful presentation, shared by Ofer Levy from Jews for Jesus, will demonstrate the link between the Jewish feast of Passover and the last supper Jesus share with His disciples. Join us for an explanation of the beautiful symbolism of the Jewish ceremony called a seder. We will weave the story of the exodus and freedom from slavery together with the messianic hope realized in Jesus; life, death, and resurrection. The words "do this in remembrance of me: will take on an even deeper meaning to Christians as we learn the significance of the tradition Jesus observed the night before He died and give us a closer look at the very Jewish life He led. Jewish or not, religious or not, all are welcome for this unforgettable, thought-provoking experience. Have questions? Call Holy Cross at (502) 647-3696 or visit <https://holycross.360unite.com> for more information.

LES SIX CONCERT: MARCH 1

les six is a woodwind sextet that will be presenting a free concert at Redeemer on March 1st at 3pm. **les six** is a woodwind ensemble of 5 players plus a pianist. They have been together for about 5 years playing concerts in the region during the fall and late winter. **les six** will present a program at Redeemer on March 1 @ 3 pm which will include an arrangement of the well known Mother Goose Suite by Maurice Ravel, a work based on Greek Dances by Andreas Makris and an Afro-American Suite incorporating beloved spirituals. **les six** has truly enjoyed playing and discovering music that is seldom performed. Redeemer is located at 3640 River Park Drive, Louisville.



HOUSE NUMBER PEDESTALS

Charlie Schufer says he will make anyone a house number pedestal if they give an extra \$20 donation to church.

BOOK CLUB

The Book Club has chosen C.S. Lewis's *The Last Battle* as the reading selection for the next book club meeting. This is the last book in the *Chronicles of Narnia* and a fitting book for the Lenten/Easter season. It is available in many formats and is not too long of a read. They will be having a spring/Easter themed luncheon that day; feel free to let me know what you are bringing. Date for next meeting to be determined. For more information please see Shelah Shreve.

MEN'S RETREAT: APRIL 17-19

Join other men in Christian fellowship on April 17-19 at Lakeview Villages in Seymour, IN as we explore the topic of "LOST THINGS" with Rev. Jonathan Fisk. What does the First Article of the creed mean for our everyday life? Get away and enjoy God's great creation, eat like a king at our hog roast, join in good-natured brotherly competition and much more. Visit www.mensgathering.us for info and registration.

LIFE QUOTES

"Parents make mistakes, and so do their children. Don't let the thought of failure prevent you, my friends, from going for the prize. If you have not been in it before, get in the game, follow Christ. If you have tried hard and feel you have not succeeded, don't give up. Fight the good fight. Run the race with full determination. With Christ, you will obtain the prize."

Dr. Oswald Hoffmann, former speaker of "The Lutheran Hour" – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org



KNOW YOUR BIBLE



God's Provision

How was the prophet Elijah fed by God in the wilderness?

Look for the answer in the April Newsletter
February's Answer:

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

SUNDAY	ACOLYTE	READER	USHERS	CLEANING	NURSERY	ALTAR GUILD
March 1	Brenyn Botkins	Nancy Kovach	Charlie Moody R. Whitehouse	Sandy Runner	Alena Guagenti	J. Harrod N. Guagenti
March 8	Isaac Guagenti	David Franke	Don Williams Bob Myers	Bob Myers	Josh Botkins	No Communion
March 15	Gabriel Guagenti	Jeff Wilson	Alex VanPelt Charlie Adams	Botkins family	Katy Vetter	B. Moody J. Dillard
March 22	Zoe Shreve	Charlie Moody	Rod Shreve John Feole	Charlie Adams	Shelah Shreve	No Communion
March 29	Eden Guagenti	Dave Themer	Jeff Wilson Joel Franke	Franke family	Jennie Shreve	R. Whitehouse N. Guagenti
April 5	Elijah Smith	Nancy Kovach	Charlie Moody R. Whitehouse	Kathy Vetter	Alena Guagenti	J. Harrod J. Dillard
April 12	Max Semeniuk	David Franke	Don Saltzman Aaron Franke	Sandy Runner	Josh Botkins	No Communion

If you cannot serve on the appointed day, please call someone to serve in your place.

LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES

Lutheran Hour Ministries is a Christian outreach ministry supporting churches worldwide in its mission of *Bringing Christ to the Nation—and the Nations to Church*. Lutheran Hour Ministries produces Christian radio and TV programming for broadcast, as well as Internet and print communications, dramas, music, and outreach materials, to reach the unchurched in more than 30 countries. LHM's flagship program **The Lutheran Hour**, is the world's longest-running Christian outreach radio program. It airs Sundays at 9am on 102.7FM. For more information, visit www.lhm.org (<http://www.lhm.org>) or call 1-800-876-9880.

KFUO.ORG RADIO

Listen to Worldwide KFUE.org, your radio station for practical Lutheran talk, daily Bible and Confession studies, daily worship opportunities, and current issues from a Lutheran worldview. Programs are archived at KFUE.org for 24/7 on-demand listening. You can also find our programming wherever you get your podcasts! Have a question or comment? Find us at @KFUEradio on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

You Might Be a Lutheran If...

- You hear something really funny and smile as loud as you can.
- It takes 10 minutes to say good-bye.
- Doughnuts are in the official church budget.

REVERENDFUN.COM COPYRIGHT BIBLE GATEWAY



Thanks to Wilma Melendez (See Exodus 7-12) 03-20-2009

DUDE, THERE'S YOUR PIC ON PAGE 32!

CHAMPIONS FOR RELIGIOUS LIBERTY: MARCH 21

Concordia Lutheran in Louisville, KY, invites all members of Holy Cross, to attend a "Champions for Religious Liberty" event to be held at Concordia on Saturday, March 21 (9:15 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. ET). This event is brought to you by the Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty (LCRL), and is sponsored in part by the The Kentuckiana Federation of Lutheran Churches. The event's main presenter will be Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz, Executive Director of the LCRL and former Speaker of The Lutheran Hour radio program, and he will be speaking on topics related to Lutheran "Two Kingdoms" theology and the individual Christian's role in the public square.

Preschool Workers Needed

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Preschool in Georgetown, Indiana is seeking workers to fill workers positions for the 2020-2021 school year. Positions available are teacher and director.

Applicants for the Director position should be in good standing as a member of a Lutheran Church -Missouri Synod congregation, love children, and desire to oversee early childhood education, as well as administration. This part-time position includes working with children and their parents, overseeing the daily operations of the school, handling registrations and tuitions and working with the Board of Preschool, among other duties. Applicants for the Teacher position should be in good standing as a member of a Lutheran Church -Missouri Synod congregation, love children and desire to oversee early childhood education. The position includes working with children and their parents, and (under the direction and supervision of the director) planning, implementing and evaluating the curriculum in accordance with early childhood development. Applicants are asked to inquire to president@sothluth.org for further information and questions and to request an application. A full job description will be emailed upon request.



2020 MEN'S GATHERING

LOST THINGS

*I BELIEVE IN GOD, THE FATHER ALMIGHTY,
MAKER OF HEAVEN AND EARTH.*

~ THE FIRST ARTICLE ~

Join us on APRIL 17-19 at

Lakeview Villages to hear

Rev. Jonathan Fisk present on the topic:

“LOST THINGS: Rediscovering the First Article.”

~ ONE GREAT GOD ~

~ 150 CHRISTIAN MEN ~

~ ONE UNFORGETTABLE WEEKEND ~

**VISIT WWW.MENSGATHERING.US
FOR INFO AND REGISTRATION.**



The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

LCMS Stewardship Ministry

Newsletter Article – March 2020

We are at the beginning of Lent. During the Lenten season, the church calls to our attention the sufficiency of what God gives. It points to the sufficiency of God's grace in the atoning work of Jesus. It shows us the sufficiency of faith in Jesus' work for us. It makes known the sufficiency of God's Word in faith and life.

But Lent doesn't just remind us of the sufficiency of God's spiritual gifts, the gifts that pertain to our redemption and salvation. Lent also reminds us of the sufficiency of the physical, temporal gifts of God, those that pertain to this body and life. In other words, it reminds us of the importance of godly contentment and of outward discipline and training of the body.

This outward training of the body teaches us not to give in to every desire of our flesh but to learn to say no to them. And it does this in such a way that if you fail, it is no sin. It is a way to practice without putting yourself into a compromising situation.

The easiest example of this is fasting. When you fast, you are practicing saying no to the desires of your body. But if you fail in this, if you break your fast, you have not sinned. You have, though, learned something about how your flesh works, how difficult it is to fight against it, and how you need help from above in order to do it.

There is another example of this. It is alms-giving. This is an increase in giving to the church and its mission during this time. We all know that our flesh finds security in money and stuff. By committing to give more to the church, you are training your flesh. You are, by this outward discipline, training yourself to be content with what God gives. You are practicing saying "no" to your desires. Again, if you fail, you have not sinned. But you've learned just how powerful your flesh is in leading you instead of you leading it. You've learned how you need help from above in being content with what God gives.

This is why St. Paul instructs young Pastor Timothy in this way:

"But godliness with contentment is great gain, for we brought nothing into the world, and[a] we cannot take anything out of the world. But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content. But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs." (1 Tim 6:6–10)

Our sufficiency is not of ourselves; it is in God. Let us learn this without sin by training our flesh this Lenten season.



SHARING THE POWERFUL GOSPEL!

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EVERY SUNDAY
BIBLE STUDY AND SUNDAY SCHOOL-9:45AM
DIVINE SERVICE-11:00AM

MARCH NEWSLETTER 2020



The Annunciation of Our Lord
March 25, 2020