

The Week Ahead



Today's festival is a bridge between the Advent-Christmas-Epiphany cycle that comes to a close today and the Lent-Easter cycle that begins in several days. On a high mountain Jesus is revealed as God's beloved Son, echoing the words at his baptism. This vision of glory sustains us as Jesus faces his impending death in Jerusalem. We turn this week to Ash Wednesday and our yearly baptismal journey from Lent to Easter. Some churches put aside the alleluia at the conclusion of today's liturgy. This word of joy will be omitted during the penitential season of Lent and will be sung again at Easter.

Sunday, February 23

9:00am Worship
10:30am Sunday Church School

Monday, February 24

6:00pm Boy Scouts

Tuesday, February 25

9:00am The Breakfast Club

Wednesday, February 26

7:00pm Ash Wednesday Service

Thursday, February 27

6:00pm Junior Youth Meeting

Saturday, February 29

6:30pm Sadie Hawkins Dance
@ St. Paul Lutheran Church

Stewardship Snippet

February 23, 2020

Matthew 17:5 –While he [Peter] was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, “This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!”

Peter, James, and John see Jesus shining like the sun, his form transfigured into a dazzling presence—and they are terrified. As they are, we're still listening and following Jesus today to cultivate a heart of love.

Prepare the Way

[Next week's] gospel tells of Jesus' temptation in the desert. His forty-day fast becomes the basis of our Lenten pilgrimage. In the early church Lent was a time of intense preparation for those to be baptized at the Easter Vigil. This catechetical focus on the meaning of faith is at the heart of our Lenten journey to the baptismal waters of Easter. Hungry for God's mercy, we receive the bread of life to nourish us for the days ahead.



Meditation and Readings for March 1

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7 Psalm 32
Romans 5:12-19 Matthew 4:1-11

Sunday, March 1

9:00am Worship
10:30am Sunday Church School
2:00p, Dulcimers Practice
5:00pm Tapology

Call to Action

With Lent upon us, I will be looking for folks to contribute their talents in preparing our Soup and Bread, for our Lenten Soup Suppers! I will need volunteers for **March 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th, April 1st**, and two Soups for the Agape Feast on **April 9th**. Please plan on approximately 25 people for each meal. There is a sign-up sheet on the Communication Board in Fellowship Hall, or call/text me at: 717.609.9009. Thank you, very much!!!
Lela Ewell

As part of ongoing support for the Lutheran Theological Seminary Gettysburg, we are collecting items for their food pantry. The pantry includes food and personal items, toiletries, etc. The seminary tries to stock healthy choices for the seminarians, so snack type foods are a lower priority. Any donations can be placed in the bin marked for “Seminary” inside the doors off the parking lot between the bench and the office. We

Lord, in Your mercy....

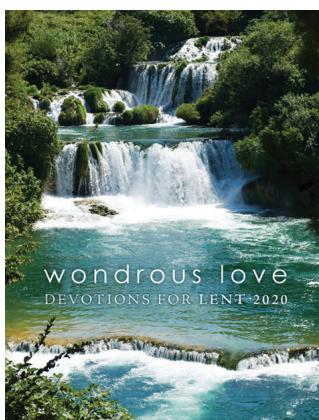
*Karen Lee...cancer
Family and friends of Kathy Bomberger, Mike
K's sister...Kathy passed away on Feb 15*

*Jadam and Angel Smith...tough times
St. Stephen Disciples.*

have received notices of appreciation in the past for our contributions. Thank you for helping with this great ministry. Any questions see Lynne Immell.

**L ST &
FOUND**

Lost....One, gray wool cap. Parker Lee lost his favorite gray wool cap. There is a lot of sentiment attached to it. Please call Parker if you find the missing head gear! Thank you in advance!



The Educational Ministry Committee has purchased Lenten devotional books again this year. *Wondrous Love* highlights readings from Matthew (our gospel focus for 2020). Each day features a reading, a photo, a quote to ponder, a reflection and a prayer. This is a great way to incorporate a simple Christian observance into your Lenten journey. Pick up a copy in the Fellowship Hall – one per family, please.

**Save The Date! It's Leap Year !
Paul and Stephen's Sadie Hawkins Social
Saturday, February 29, 6:30 - 9:00 p.m.
Stock Hall, St. Paul Lutheran Church In Carlisle**

**Sadie Hawkins
Dance**



St. Paul Lutheran Church has invited St. Stephen Lutheran Church to a fun filled evening of combined fellowship. Senior Youth Groups and all adults are invited to this social which include es Green Door from Carlisle instructing Swing Dance.

There will also be social games, humor, snacks and fun food like a typical 50's Sadie Hawkins, but you can forget about the girl's date—no requirements there! Come as you are or dress like the 50's.

Doors open at 6:15

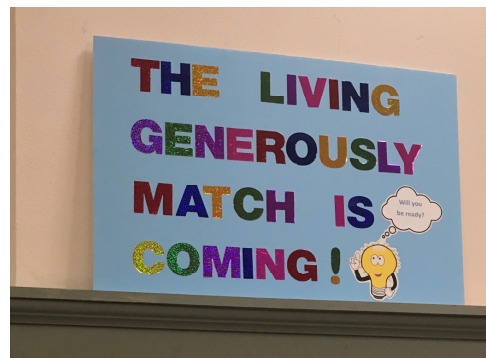
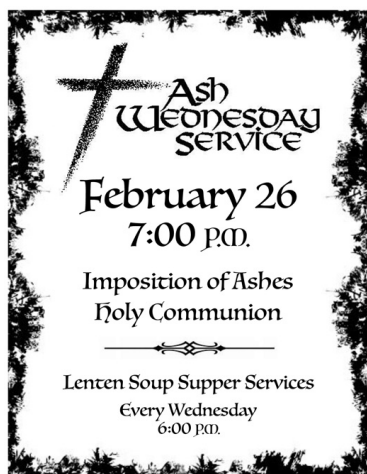
6:30 – 7:00pm Open the Event with Prayer; Social Games to get to Know One Another
7:00 – 8:00pm Dance Lessons and Activities Led by Green Door Instructors
8:00 – 9:00pm Social Time, 50's Music by request, and Freestyle Dance

We will arrange for a ride if you would like one.

A sign up sheet, along with a request for transportation, for this free event is on the communications board in Fellowship Hall. Please sign up by February 24th!

Interested in going to the Holy Land and walking in the footsteps of Jesus, Moses, and so many more? There will be a trip to Israel and Egypt in July 2021 for approximately 11 days. The cost will most likely be between \$3500-4000. More details will follow. Right now, Pr. Matthew needs to know who is interested in learning more about this trip. Please let him know.

WESTMINSTER KANTOREI, a choral ensemble specializing in early music from Westminster Choir College of Rider University, will present a concert on **Sunday, March 1 at 4:00 p.m. at First Evangelical Lutheran Church**. Conducted by Jay Carter, the choir will perform German music from across the Baroque era, focusing intently on works by Heinrich Schütz, Andreas Hammerschmidt and members of the Bach family, culminating with J.S. Bach's masterwork *Jesu, meine Freude*, BWV 227. An award-winning chamber choir, it is comprised of students at Westminster Choir College, which is one of the world's leading schools of music located in the heart of Princeton, New Jersey. The ensemble performs regularly with Juilliard415 and several of America's leading specialists in early music. It was recently recognized as a winner of The American Prize, whose judges stated that the choir is "truly outstanding" and has a "finely-measured and delicate balance of voices, and a mastery of stylistic performance practice." Sponsored by Fine Arts at First, the concert is free. A freewill offering will be accepted, and a dessert reception will be held following the performance. Doors will open at 3:15 p.m. Call the church, 717-249-3310, or visit www.firstlutherancarlisle.org for more information.



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Please visit and like our **Facebook** page:

<https://www.facebook.com/StStephenLC.org>.

Here you'll find up-to-minute information, upcoming events and activities, and stories of encounters with Jesus changing people's lives.