



Now  
the appearance of  
the glory of the LORD  
was like a  
**DEVOURING  
FIRE**  
on the top of  
the mountain ...

EXODUS 24:17, NRSV

We rejoice in the Lord's answers to prayers  
and thank God for His goodness.

**Members Needing  
Prayer:**

Yvonne Smith  
Chris Dueker  
Arlene Robbins  
Robert Harris  
Mona White  
Julie Werfelmann  
Betty Montgomery  
Neil and Verna Wal-  
den  
Liz Smith  
Bill Biggs  
Mary Norris & Family  
Connie Alvarado  
Jocelyn Miller  
Kirsten Linder  
Jim Thompson

**Family and Friends:**

Randy Williams (Dueker)  
Christopher Robbins (Robbins)  
Dan Taylor (Wilk)  
Kevin (Hays)  
Nels (Harris)  
Karen Tabler (Vonny)  
George Pisching (Woody W.)  
Julie Schneider (Vonny)  
Kaitlyn (Lisa K.)  
Coach (Sandy T.)  
Pauline Ritterbush  
Julie Schnieder (Bender)  
Jade Dixon (Julie)  
Elaine (Werfelmann)  
Ivonne Garcia (Zamora)  
Phil (Anderson)  
Jennifer Wenzel (Wilk)  
Zyg Zee (Norris)  
Claire (Vonny)  
Janet Sharp (Fake)  
Anthony Collichio (Norris)  
Mickey Cecil (Norris)  
Dorothy Lee Bruce (Julie)  
Melissa (Sandy T.)  
Frank and Anita Porco (Vonny)  
Pam (Smith)  
Grace Johnson (Fake)  
Hudson Otten (Anderson)  
Karen Ohanesian (Hays)  
Rosemary (Vonny)

***Prayers For***

All Good Shepherd Families Who Have Lost Loved Ones, Members of  
Our Military Service, First Responders, and Those Affected by Illness,  
Natural Disasters and War.

For Prayer Requests: Complete the prayer request card on the back of  
the pew or call/email the church office 225-2092/gslcfresno@att.net

# UPCOMING *Events*

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS February

- Feb. 4** - Worship Committee Meeting @ 6:30PM, Pr. Ted's Office
- Feb. 7** - LHN Free Neighborhood Market, GSLC lost
- Feb. 9** - Esther Circle @ 4PM, Comm Ctr
- Feb. 14** - Roeding Saturday Sports @ 10-12PM, Roeding Elementary
- Feb. 15** - GSLC Book Club @ 4PM, Comm Ctr
- Feb. 16** - Presidents' Day  
**OFFICE CLOSED**
- Feb. 16** - OWLS @ 12pm, Comm Ctr
- Feb. 17** - Shrove Tuesday pancake Party @ 7pm, Jacobson Hall
- Feb. 18** - Ash Wednesday @ 6:30 (Soup), Worship @ 7pm, Comm Ctr
- Feb. 19** - Council Meeting @ 6PM, Comm Ctr
- Feb. 25** - Staff Meeting @ 10AM, Pr. Ted's Office

# WEEKLY *Sneak Peek*

## SUNDAY, February 15

- 10am: Worship Service
- 11:15am: Coffee Social
- 11:15am: Salt & Light, Class Rm 2
- 4pm: GSLC Book Club, Comm Ctr

## MONDAY, February 16 Presidents Day

**OFFICE CLOSED**

- 12 Noon, OWLS, Comm Ctr

## TUESDAY, February 17

- 6pm - 10pm: Voices United, Comm Ctr
- 7pm: Shrove Tuesday, Jacobson Hall

## WEDNESDAY, February 18

- 6:30pm: Soup Supper, Comm Ctr
- 7pm: Lenten Worship, Comm Ctr

## THURSDAY, February 19

- 6pm: Council Meeting, Comm Ctr.

## FRIDAY, February 20

- 7pm Accion de Fe, Comm Ctr

## SATURDAY, February 21

## SUNDAY, February 22

- 10am: Worship Service
- 11:15am: Coffee Social
- 11:15am: Salt & Light, Class Rm 2

**Good Shepherd Lutheran Church**  
**Worship Service**  
**February 15, 2026 - 10AM**  
**Transfiguration of Our Lord**

**Prelude**                      Susan Berg, Pianist

**Announcements**

**Opening Hymn**              "When Morning Gilds the Skies" #853 (vv. 1-2, 4-5)  
Song Leaders and Congregation

1. When morning gilds the skies, my heart awaking cries;; may Jesus Christ be praised! When evening shadows fall, this rings my curfew call: may Jesus Christ be praised!

2. When mirth for, music longs, this is my song of songs:  
may Jesus Christ be praised! God's holy house of prayer has none that can compare, with "Jesus Christ be praised!"

4. Let all of humankind in this their concord find:  
may Jesus Christ be praised! Let all the earth around ring joyous with the sound: may Jesus Christ be praised!

5. Sing, sun and stars of space, sing, all who see his face, sing, "Jesus Christ be praised!" God's whole creation o'er, today and evermore shall Jesus Christ be praised!

**Confession and Forgiveness**

*All may make the sign of the cross.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, +one God,  
The Creator of heaven and earth,  
the Word who spoke life into being,  
the Wind stirring the waters.

**Amen.**

Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.  
*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Mighty God, lover of justice,  
**You call us to life in community, but we have served our own interests at the expense of our neighbors.**  
**We have sown deceit where honesty was needed.**  
**We say the right words, but our hearts are far from you.**

**Turn us to seek your face.**

**Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ, that we may do justice,  
love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God.**

**Amen.**

### **Prayer of the Day**

**P:** We pray together...

**C:** O God, in the transfiguration of your Son you confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the witness of Moses and Elijah, and in the voice from the bright cloud declaring Jesus your beloved Son, you foreshadowed our adoption as your children. Make us heirs with Christ of your glory, and bring us to enjoy its fullness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### **Special Music**

"The Lord Is in This Holy Temple" by Douglas E. Wagner (c 2004 Lorenz Publishing Company, a division of The Lorenz Corporation)

Choral Ensemble with The Good Shepherd Chimes

|                 |                 |                                                               |
|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Lesson 1</b> | Exodus 24:12-18 | Page 674 in the cranberry Bible<br>Page 78 in the red Bible   |
| <b>Lesson 2</b> | 2 Peter 1:16-21 | Page 1107 in the cranberry Bible<br>Page 255 in the red Bible |
| <b>Gospel</b>   | Matthew 17:1-9  | Page 894 in the cranberry Bible<br>Page 19 in the red Bible   |

### **Kids' Talk**

Julie Werfelmann

Children are now invited - but not required - to go with the adult leader to kids' church in classroom 2 during the sermon. They will return in time for communion with their families.

### **Sermon**

"Coming Down the Mountain"

Pr. Ted Niemi

### **Sermon Hymn**

"In Christ Alone" by Keith Getty and Stuart Townend (c 2001 Thankyou Music Ltd, CCLI Song # 3350395) (vv. 1-3)

1. In Christ alone my hope is found, He is my light, my strength, my song;  
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground, firm through the fiercest drought and storm.

What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled,  
when strivings cease.

My Comforter, my All in All, here in the love of Christ I stand.

2. In Christ alone, who took on flesh, fullness of God in helpless babe!  
This gift of love and righteousness, scorned by the one He came to save.  
Till on that cross as Jesus died,  
the wrath of God was satisfied.  
For ev'ry sin on Him was laid; Here in the death of Christ I live.

3. There in the ground His body lay, Light of the world by darkness slain;  
Then, bursting forth in glorious Day, up from the grave He rose again!  
And as He stands in victory,  
sin's curse has lost its grip on me;  
For I am His and He is mine, bought with the precious blood of Christ.

4. No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the pow'r of Christ in me; From  
life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.  
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man, can ever pluck me from His hand; Till  
He returns or calls me home, here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand!

### **Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the  
Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was cru-  
cified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at  
the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the  
dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of  
saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,  
And the life everlasting.

**Amen.**

### **Prayers of the Church**

#### **Sharing the Peace**

#### **Special Music**

"The Majesty and Glory of Your Name" by Linda Lee  
Johnson and Tom Fettle (c 1979 and this arr. c 1984  
NORMAN CLAYTON PUBLISHING CO. (a division of  
WORD, INC.))

Choral Ensemble with The Good Shepherd Chimes

#### **Offering**

#### **Offering Response**

"Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise" #207  
Song Leaders and Congregation

Thankful hearts and voices raise; tell everyone what God has done.  
Let everyone who seeks the Lord rejoice and bear the name of Christ.

Send us with your promises and lead your people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

## **Words of Institution**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

### **Holy Communion**

Communion shall be served using the method known as "intinction": the wafer will be handed to you, and you will dip the wafer into either the gold chalice of wine, or the ceramic chalice of grape juice. For those who are not able to come up for communion, please just remain seated and our ushers will be happy to direct the communion servers to bring communion right to you. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. Children are welcome to come up for communion to receive an animal cracker (unless otherwise advised by the parent or guardian). Please come, for all are welcome.

### **Communion Hymn** "My Life Flows On in Endless Song" #763 (vv. 1-4) Song Leaders and Congregation

1. My life flows on in endless song; above earth's lamentation, I catch the sweet, though far off hymn that hails a new creation.

Refrain:

No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that Rock I'm clinging.  
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing?

2. Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear that music ringing.  
It finds an echo in my soul. How can I keep from singing?  
(Refrain)

3. What though my joys and comforts die? The Lord, my Savior liveth.  
What though the darkness gather round? Songs in the night he giveth.  
(Refrain)

4. The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a fountain ever springing!  
All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from singing?  
(Refrain)

### **Blessing**

**Closing Song** "Lord, I Lift Your Name on High" (sing twice), by Rick Founds (c 1989 Maranatha Praise Inc., admin. Music Services; CCLI Song # 117947)  
Song Leaders and Congregation

Lord, I lift your name on high; Lord, I love to sing your praises.  
I'm so glad you're in my life, I'm so glad you came to save us.  
You came from heaven to earth to show the way, from the earth to the  
cross my debt to pay; from the cross to the grave, from the grave to the  
sky; Lord, I lift your name on high.

**Sending**

**P:** Go in peace to love and serve.

**C:** Thanks be to God.

**Postlude**      Susan Berg, Pianist

Transfiguration Sunday, February 15, 2026

## Scripture Reading: Matthew 17:1-9

*How sweet the name of Jesus sounds in a believer's ear! It soothes his sorrows,  
heals his wounds, and drives away his fear. —John Newton*



I've stood on a few mountaintops in my lifetime, like, for example, the Klein Matterhorn in Switzerland, Pikes Peak, Mount Evans and Longs Peak in Colorado. To get to the top, one requires a cable car, two can be conquered by car, but the last insists on a good pair of legs.

There's another one: Mount Tabor in Galilee, known as the traditional site of the Transfiguration. A few years ago, my daughter and I drove to the top where two churches sit, one a Franciscan chapel.

Of course, our minds wandered back to the gospel accounts (like the one in today's reading from Matthew) about what happened long ago. On that mountain, Peter, James and John experienced something utterly breathtaking. They saw Jesus transfigured before their eyes. His face shone like the sun, his clothes dazzling white. Then Moses and Elijah appeared, representing the Law and the Prophets. It was a moment of scary splendor, filled with meaning, history and wonder. And yet, in the end, the cloud of glory lifts, the visions fade, and all that remains is Jesus only.

How powerful is that? These three disciples saw many things that day, but in the end, their eyes were drawn to the one who mattered most: Jesus.

As we grow older, our lives often become quieter but not necessarily less cluttered. There are still distractions: health issues, financial concerns, the noise of the world on TV, worries for loved ones, regrets from the past or questions about the future. These distractions, while real, can blur our spiritual vision. They can keep us from focusing on the One who is the source of peace, purpose and hope.

But in this mountaintop moment, we are reminded of what truly matters. It's not Moses. It's not Elijah. It's not our past or future, our regrets or our fears. It's not the noise of the world or the uncertainty of tomorrow. It's Jesus only.

And here's the good news: we don't have to climb a mountain to see him. Wherever we are, whether in a quiet room, a hospital bed or our favorite chair by the window, we can look up and find him near. He is with us. Always.

—Timothy Merrill

*Prayer: Lord Jesus, in a world full of distractions, help me to focus on you alone. Just as Peter, James and John saw only you at the end of the vision, help me to look past my worries, my aches, and my fears to see your face. Be my vision today, and always. Amen.*

## Daily Bible Readings

Sunday: Exodus 21-24

Monday: Exodus 25-27

Tuesday: Exodus 28-31

Wednesday: Exodus 32-34

Thursday: Exodus 35-37

Friday: Exodus 38-40

Saturday: Psalms 16-18



## WORD BOX

The answer for each numbered clue will be the same down and across.

### CLUES FOR WORD BOX

1. One who keeps money
2. On top of
3. Casts a ballot
4. A happening
5. Takes it easy

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2 |   |   |   |   |
| 3 |   |   |   |   |
| 4 |   |   |   |   |
| 5 |   |   |   |   |

### THE BIBLE? OR NOT?

The English language is full of everyday sayings many of which surprisingly trace their roots all the way back to the Bible, while others have emerged from literature, folklore and even old proverbs. In the list below, you'll find 20 familiar expressions. Your challenge is to identify which ones come from the Bible. *Circle the expressions that come from the Bible. Leave the others unmarked.*

1. The writing on the wall
2. Bite the bullet
3. By the skin of your teeth
4. A drop in the bucket
5. Burn the midnight oil
6. Scapegoat
7. The blind leading the blind
8. A stitch in time saves nine
9. Apple of his eye
10. Go the extra mile

11. Barking up the wrong tree
12. My brother's keeper
13. Rise and shine
14. A house divided cannot stand
15. Let sleeping dogs lie
16. Wolf in sheep's clothing
17. Cast the first stone
18. Can a leopard change its spots?
19. Burning the candle at both ends
20. Wash your hands of it

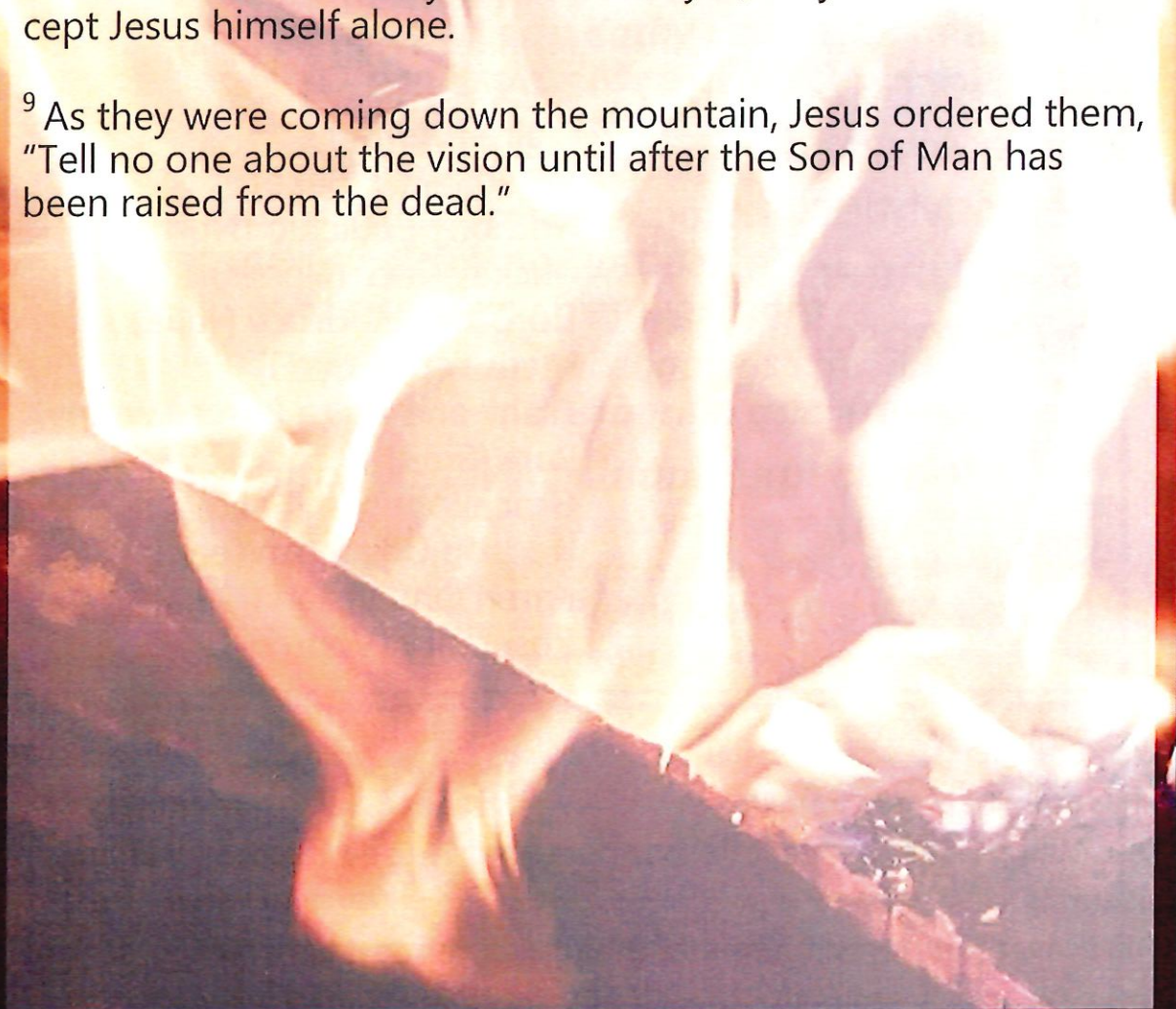
Answers to Word Box: 1. saver, 2. above, 3. votes, 4. event, 5. rests. Answers to "The Bible?" 1. Daniel 5:5-31; 3. Job 19:20; 4. Isaiah 40:15; 6. Leviticus 16:10; 7. Matthew 15:14; 9. Psalm 17:8; Zechariah 2:8; 10. Matthew 5:41; 12. Genesis 4:9; 13. Isaiah 60:1; 14. Mark 3:25; 16. Matthew 7:15; 17. John 8:7-11; 18. Jeremiah 13:23; 20. Matthew 27:24. Not from the Bible: 2, 5, 8, 11, 15, 19.

**GOSPEL**  
**Matthew 17:1-9**

**The Transfiguration**

**17** Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. <sup>2</sup> And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became bright as light. <sup>3</sup> Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. <sup>4</sup> Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I <sup>[a]</sup> will set up three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." <sup>5</sup> While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; <sup>[b]</sup> with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" <sup>6</sup> When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. <sup>7</sup> But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." <sup>8</sup> And when they raised their eyes, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

<sup>9</sup> As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."



## ANNOUNCEMENTS



### Volunteer Needed—Instagram Posts

The church is needing someone to step up and begin doing the Instagram post for the upcoming events and activities.

### Food Pantry Needs Restocking



We could use: Rice, bagged pasta, canned sauces, canned vegetables, canned fruit (fruit cocktail, peaches, pineapple), canned chili beans, egg noodles, Cream of mushroom or chicken soup, Mayo, canned tuna, chicken or beef, ramen noodles, Mac N Cheese, boxed pasta meals, peanut butter and grape jelly. Donations can be dropped off at the office M - F, from 9 - 1PM.

### Many Thanks!!

Many thanks to the wonderful volunteer Counters who have committed for the month of Feb. to sort the Sunday Offering and prepare the weekly deposit.

February 1st Jim & Ruth Thompson

February 8th Art Mehl

February 15th Dee Wright & Diane Fake

February 22nd Art Mehl



### Making Soup with Suzie! Begins 2/22

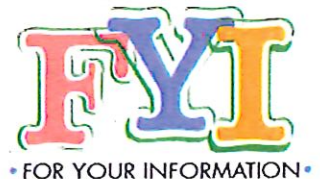


Suzie will be making soup over in the kitchen in Jacobson all the Sundays in Lent. YOU are invited to help and also receive the recipe.

No experience required! This soup will be enjoyed each of the following Wednesdays to go with the Lenten Bible Study. Please see Suzie or Julie if you have any questions or if you have a favorite recipe you'd like to take a turn to make. Thank you

### Memorial Garden Committee Raffle

The Memorial Garden Committee is planning another exciting raffle with some wonderful prizes. Check the February Newsletter for more details. You will receive raffle tickets in the mail very soon with instructions on how to purchase as many as you like. The best news is that a portion of the proceeds will be designated for our HVAC Fund.



## HVAC GoFundMe Fundraiser Goes Live

The Good Shepherd HVAC GoFundMe fundraiser is now live on it's website. <https://gofund.me/05d79cff>

Please send this link: to family, friends, businesses etc., via Facebook, email and any other social media platforms to get the word out to raise funds for a new HVAC system. We have a fundraising goal of \$150,000 to support the purchase of a new HVAC system.

Every donation, big or small, will make a tremendous difference. Together, we can bring warmth back to our church and restore the place where our community worships and grows faith. Thank you for your support.

We are truly grateful for your kindness and generosity.

Blessings, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of Fresno

Thank you, Reynaldo Villalobos

Support New HVAC at Good Shepherd  
Fresno



## Shrove Tuesday, February 17, 6-7:30 pm In Jacobson Hall

Shrove Tuesday, also known as Mardi Gras and Fat Tuesday, will soon be here, and we are planning our usual celebration of silliness to end the Epiphany season and use up all the "fat" prior to the start of Lent. Janet's bringing a ham and her famous cheesy potatoes, and there will be lots of pancakes and amazing toppings. This is a fun event for ALL AGES! A few pictures are attached from past years for your enjoyment!



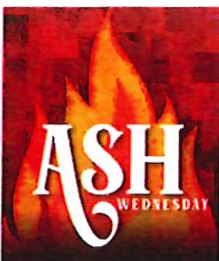
**Be sure to wear your Fat Tuesday colors - green, gold, and purple - as well as a mask if you have one, and you are also invited to dress as silly as you like.** It's always so good to eat together and enjoy the traditional pancake races & a pancake flipping contest, whether as a participant or a spectator. There will be beads and a King Cake, and much more. (Tom found the baby Jesus last year so will be bringing this year's cake. Thanks Tom!) Come find out more about this meaningful and interesting tradition.

If you'd like to volunteer help me flip pancakes, please let me know.

Thank you!

Shalom, Julie

## Ash Wednesday is 2/18, Soup @ 6:30, Worship @ 7



Please see Julie if you would like to make the soup for the congregation. It can be made at home & brought in, or you can use the kitchen. Thank you! Ash Wednesday will meet in the Community Center for soup and worship.

**Hooties Gathering, February 16, NOON in the Community Center.**  
Feel the love & warmth with Mary Norris' homemade Split Pea (vegetarian/meat) Soup for Valentines Day.

Hooties are invited to bring:

- \* A LABELLED salad or dessert dish to share
- \* An ENTIRE table setting
- \* A soup bowl
- A short version of how you met your spouse

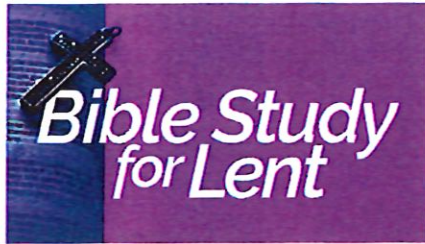


**Lenten Wednesday Bible Study & Soup Begin 2/25**

We will offer soup and a Bible study every Wednesday of Lent at 2 different times.

12-1 pm, soup & study

6:30-7:30, soup & study



We will meet in the community center for both, and we are going over the 5 parts of Luther's Small Catechism: Lord's Prayer, 10 Commandments, Apostle's Creed, Sacrament of Baptism, Sacrament of Holy Communion. Any kids will go with Julie, while Pastor Ted has the adults.

Come and review - or learn it for the first time. All are welcome!