

March 2022

# COSLC News & Nuggets

The scoop on how we are the hands and feet of God, praising, nurturing, and serving through Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church.



## Hurtles: Hampering or hurtling?

Pastor Erika Bergh

This year's Lenten Gospel lessons, depict a series of hurtles (barriers, temptations, doubts, questions, or tests) put in Christ's path to try and thwart him from carrying out his ultimate calling to die on the cross and then rise from the dead, *for us*.

- Luke 4 – On the first Sunday of Lent, we will read that the Devil tempts Jesus three times to use his divine power for his own wellbeing and to save himself. But Jesus doesn't!

### MORE TOPICS INSIDE:

- **Pastoral Message**
- **Praise!**
  - Sunday Worship Info
  - Ash Wednesday
  - Lenten Midweek Services
- **Nurture!**
  - Book Group: "A Thousand Ships"
  - Shrove Tuesday Pancake Palooza!
  - COSLC Buddy System
  - March Birthdays and Anniversaries
- **Serve!**
  - Veggie Collection for LSSA
  - Conversations about Gardening in Rural Alaska
- **Church Updates:**
  - Call Process Announcements
  - Church Calendar (including Pastor's March schedule)



## CONTINUED: Hurtles: Hampering or hurtling?

- Luke 13:31-35 – On the second Sunday of Lent, we will read that the Pharisees tell Jesus to leave Jerusalem because Herod Antipas wants to kill him. Jesus could have followed their advice, but he doesn't.
- Luke 13:1-9 – On the third Sunday of Lent, we will read that Jesus is informed of deaths at the hand of Pilate. This information (supplied by unknown persons) would have reminded him of the death he knows he's going to have. Jesus may be telling this parable to boost his own moral to keep going and not be tempted to cut his mission off (or down) before it has had time to reach its true potential. But Jesus keeps growing his mission.
- Luke 15 – On the fourth Sunday of Lent, we will read that Jesus is questioned by complaining peers about why he welcomes known sinners. But he doesn't give in to the peer pressure. Jesus keeps welcoming people, even through his death.
- John 12 – On the fifth Sunday of Lent, we will read that Jesus is tempted by his own disciple, Judas Iscariot, to not receive love, care, and affection from Mary. But instead, Jesus does accept the love and care of Mary. This love offers Jesus support just before he begins his most difficult week.

These hurtles – temptations to save himself, temptations to give up because it appeared to be a fruitless mission, and temptations to not receive love – could have kept Christ from carrying out his mission to die for us. But Jesus overcame these hurtles and kept moving on, continually growing God's mission.

These five weeks ask the same questions of us too. What hurtles are put in our pathway – by the Devil, leaders, peers, enemies, friends or family, or unnamed/unknown persons – to keep us from following God's call in our lives? What does it take for us to overcome those hurtles? What love and care do we need while we carry out God's mission in the world?



## **CONTINUED:** Hurtles: Hampering or hurtling?

COSLC, you have been given, what many of you might see as, a hurtle in your pathway when I decided to go on leave from call starting July 1st. I know this decision has brought disappointment, grief, frustration, and worry. And a “good” hurtle does that. It makes us think that the pathway forward is too difficult & we should just turn back, that it’s hopeless, or it will lead us to our doom. It tempts us to shrivel inward and conserve our energy & resources, to stop reaching out, and to stop trying new things. But I ask us, is that what Christ does when he is presented with hurtle after hurtle? No. (...And we haven’t even gotten to the hurtles of Holy Week yet! [But the answer will, thankfully, still be “no.”]) Instead, Jesus kept going. He kept digging in to God’s Word and reaching out to others. He kept being reckless in his welcoming and determined in his selflessness.

Jesus didn’t shy away from the hurtles. He met them head on – armed with love, confidence in God, and a rootedness in scripture and prayer. And by doing so, he journeyed through each hurtle that came his way. And in the process, flipped it on its head. No longer was each hurtle keeping Jesus from, and hampering his relationship with, God. Now, the hurtles were actually hurtling him (to catapult or throw him) closer into relationship with his Father!

The Gospel lessons during these five weeks of Lent, help us to begin to imagine how we, also, can overcome the hurtles in our lives – even the very best ones devised by the Devil himself. **I challenge us to wonder:** how might what appears to be a hurtle – for instance, yet another call process – actually be an amazing gift from God? In other words, how might a call process and a new pastor on the horizon, be a hurtle that doesn’t hamper, stop, or slow COSLC down, but rather is a hurtle that *hurtles or launches* COSLC closer to God, each other, and the world God is calling us to pour God’s selfless love into?

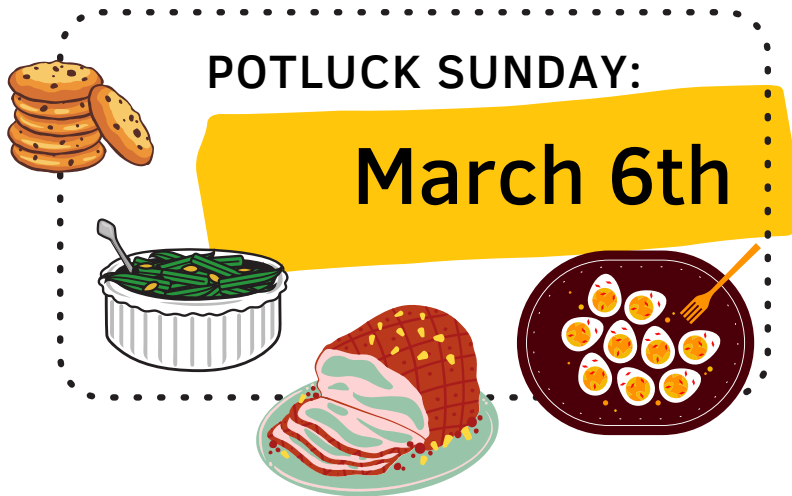
I look forward to wondering alongside you.

With love,  
Pastor Erika

## SUNDAY WORSHIP – 10AM

Both in the "room" and on Zoom!

If you need to or wish to join worship via Zoom, visit [www.coslc.ws/worship-info](http://www.coslc.ws/worship-info) for the Zoom link. This site also has more information about in-person worship such as: our "masks on at all times!" policy and our communion practices during a pandemic.



## CHOIR REHEARSALS

7pm on Wednesdays  
in the Sanctuary



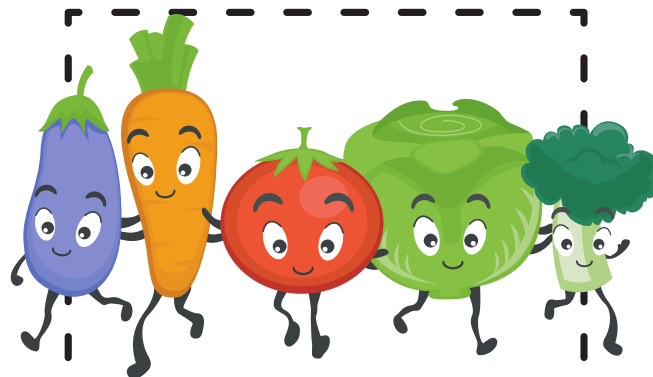
All are welcome and encouraged to join!  
Masks are worn by everyone while singing.

## BOOK GROUP:



Join us on Friday, March 25th at 6pm on Zoom for conversation about "A Thousand Ships" by Natalie Haynes. Thank you, Barb F. for helping pick this month's book!

For April's book, Kathy O. has suggested "The Good Life: What Jesus teaches about finding true happiness" by Dr Derwin L. Gray. Thank you, Kathy!



## CANNED VEGGIES COLLECTION

Help us collect cans of vegetables and other canned green foods for LSSA\* during March!

\*Lutheran Social Services of Alaska



**DAYS FOR CELEBRATION  
IN MARCH**

Birthdays, Anniversaries,  
Graduations, Baptisms, etc.

23rd – Dan Bollerud's Birthday

Do you have a date to celebrate?  
Email us so we can add you to our list!  
office@coslc.ws



**ASH WEDNESDAY**

March 2nd at 6:00pm  
in the Sanctuary and on Zoom  
[use the Worship Link on our  
website].

We will be going to Jalapeños  
after worship to bring Ashes to  
their staff.

All are welcome to join!  
(Staying to eat afterwards  
is optional.)

*wednesday*

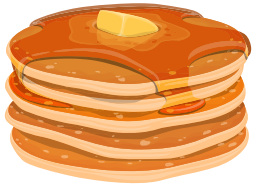
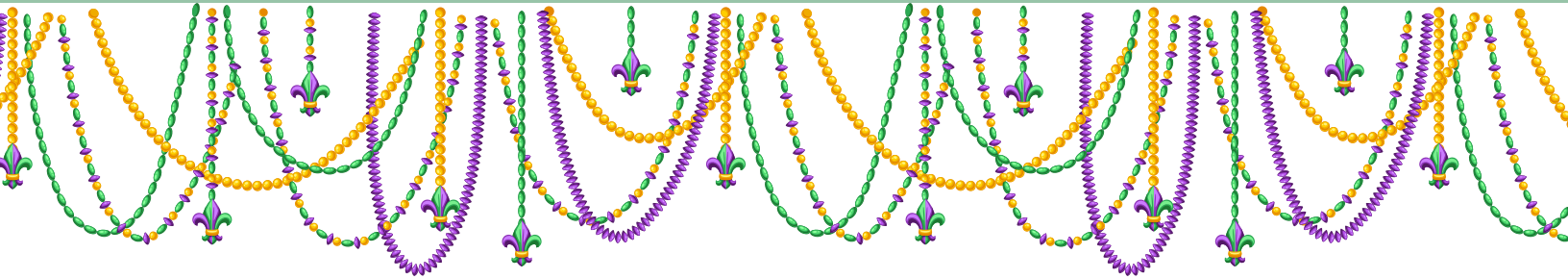
**LENTEN MIDWEEK  
SERVICES**

in the Fellowship Hall  
on March 9, 16, 23, 30, & April 6.

5:30pm – Soup and Sandwiches  
6:30pm – Holden Evening Prayer  
(will also be on Zoom [use the  
Worship Link])

MARCH 2022

# COSLC NEWS & NUGGETS



YOU'RE INVITED TO A:  
**PANCAKE  
PALOOZA!**



TUESDAY, MARCH 1  
@ 5:30PM  
COSLC Fellowship Hall



Shrove Tuesday is the last night of eating richer, fatty foods before the ritual fasting of the Lenten season.

Join us in eating Breakfast for Dinner, competing in the Pancake Olympics, making ashes for Ash Wednesday, and celebrating God's abundant grace. All are welcome!

Contact the church office for more information.





# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## MSP Team:

We need people to help revisit and revise our Mission Site Profile (MSP) so we can offer it to pastoral candidates.

Please contact Carol Bras or email [council@coslc.ws](mailto:council@coslc.ws) if you are open to helping!

## Call Committee:

We need people to help lead us in discernment about who our next pastor will be by interviewing candidates.

Please contact James Spillane or email [council@coslc.ws](mailto:council@coslc.ws) if you are open to helping!



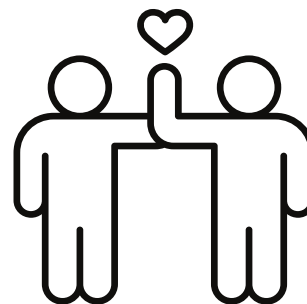
## COSLC BUDDIES

We have re-kindled our Buddy System! Our goal is that no one in our community falls through the cracks of receiving care and connection. To do this, we went through the list of people in our community and have paired everyone up.

If you have never met the person you are paired with, now is a great time to make a new friend! We are asking that we take a few moments at least once, if not twice a week to check in and call our buddy. ALSO. If there is someone not on this list who should be or someone you have been worried about, REACH OUT! Don't wait for someone else to do that (even if they are on this list but paired with someone else). And if we have forgotten someone, please let us know that as well!

You won't have all the answers when talking with your buddy, and that's okay! But here are some things we recommend discussing when on the phone:

- Your high (a good thing) from the week or day
- Your low (a bad thing) from the week or day
- Where you have seen God or an absence of God
- What is something you need prayer for right now?
- What is something you need help with right now?
- How is your health? How's your water intake?
- Have you breathed fresh air recently? How have you been eating? How has your sleep been? etc.



Ask about the basics and the scary stuff. Listen to one another, pray together on the phone. Sing! Read the Bible together. Tell each other jokes. Find a new recipe and make it together on opposite ends of a phone line. Let's let each other know that we're not alone even if we're not visiting people in person. It's okay to cry. It's okay to be okay or not be okay. It's okay to be however you are.

Lastly, Buddies, we ask that everything you share with one another is confidential between you two (or between your two families) and the pastor, as needed. If something is concerning to you that you want help addressing – please do bring it to Pastor Erika. She has made a promise of confidentiality as well. The only things she will need to share, as required by law, are if you are a danger to yourself or others, or if you are in danger from another person.

Blessings to you all!

May you feel God's presence in this time.

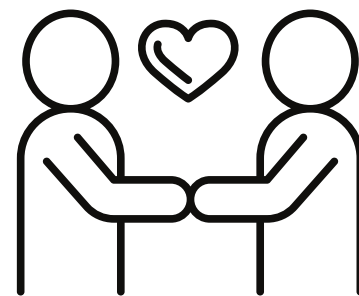
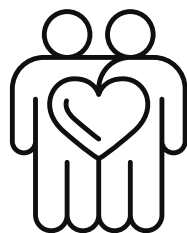


# COSLC BUDDY LIST:

Buddies for Quarter #1 (February-April) of 2022:

Contact the church office or visit our online directory through Breeze for contact information.

- |                            |                            |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Bras                       | Escontrias                 |
| Waldhaus                   | Berge                      |
| Tillman                    | Morrison                   |
| Stockly (Kate)             | McDonald                   |
| Stark                      | Nilsson                    |
| Sweeney                    | Awe                        |
| Stockly (Grant & Hyunjung) | Kay (Paula)                |
| Spillane                   | Brewer                     |
| Stockly (Jo)               | McGillvray                 |
| Roadifer                   | Lervaag/Kruse              |
| Risch                      | Lazenby                    |
| Reynolds                   | Nelson                     |
| Repke                      | Matthews                   |
| Hallum                     | Holland                    |
| Pritchard                  | Hovanec                    |
| Peebles                    | Morton                     |
| Oyler                      | Laab                       |
| Meiwes                     | Gullickson/Adams (Susy)    |
| Kennedy                    | Gullickson (Dan & LaVonne) |
| Janka (Annette)            | Fulwider                   |
| Getzendanner               | Foster                     |
| Kittleson                  | Crowther                   |
| Enslow                     | Fleming                    |
| Cocking                    | Hellmich                   |
| Chambros                   | Brown                      |
| Adams (Cindy)              | El imani                   |





## Conversations about Gardening in Rural Alaska

Noon - 1 p.m.

Every other Tuesday starting January 18th

This free, virtual series is brought to you in partnership with RurAL CAP and UAF Cooperative Extension Service.

Join an online panel of local, experienced gardeners to listen, learn, and ask questions about growing your own food. Our focus will be issues faced by rural gardeners, but we welcome one and all.

**Jan. 18:** Building Soil on the Cheap

**Feb. 1:** Coordinating a Community Garden

**Feb. 15:** Composting in Rural Alaska

**Mar. 1:** How to Apply for High Tunnel Funding

**Mar. 15:** Hosting a Seed-Starting Workshop for your Community

**Mar 29:** Incorporating a Community Garden into Your Food Pantry

**Apr. 12:** Forming a Food Security Task Force

**Apr. 26:** Pro-tips for Running a Greenhouse

**May 10:** Responsible Foraging

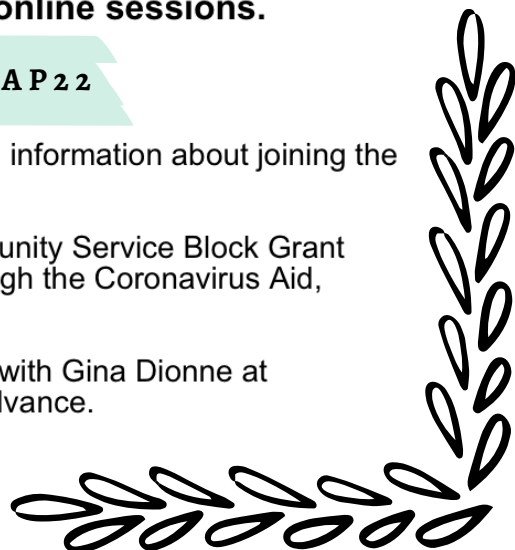
**Register once and join any or all of the free online sessions.**

[https://bit.ly/GROW\\_RurALCAP22](https://bit.ly/GROW_RurALCAP22)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. **Call-in options are available.**

This project was made possible by funding provided by a Community Service Block Grant awarded to Rural Alaska Community Action Program, Inc., through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act.

Accommodation requests related to a disability should be made with Gina Dionne at 907-786-6313 or [gddionne@alaska.edu](mailto:gddionne@alaska.edu) five business days in advance.





## Please pray with us for those on our Prayer List:



Holy and Gracious God,

You forget no one and you accompany the lonely.

Be present with those on our prayer list who are sick, suffering, or in need of support:

Inge Hallum; Bill Kennedy; Kylie Hellmich; Fred & Joanie Risch; Dan Gullickson; Naoual El imani (pronounced Noel); Erik Gullickson; Barb Fleming; Art Morton; Kirk & Sue Waldhaus; Sister Annette Janka; Bryan & Kelly Risch; Cindy Adams; Carol Roadifer; and all those we name now (*silently or aloud*):

Provide for those needing homes or medical care and point us towards life-changing responses to these needs in our own communities. Bless the ministries already providing that much needed assistance. Be with the ministries of our church and our building and synod partners:

Rabbit Creek Preschool, Boy Scouts Troop #209, Redeemer URC, the OUR NEIGHBORS Ministry, the Alaska Synod staff, Lutheran Social Services of Alaska (LSSA), & First Lutheran Church in Ketchikan. Support us in our missions of spreading your love in the world.

Amen.

## How can we pray for you?



Your church family at Christ Our Savior, is here for you! We want to extend prayers, phone calls, and encouragement to you when you need them.

Please contact the church office as soon as possible when:

- A member of your family or a friend dies;
- Hospital or home visitation would be a blessing;
- You or someone you know is having surgery;
- You or someone you know wants to plan a baptism or wedding;
- You or someone you know is ill or grieving;
- You move or change your telephone numbers or email.



Pastor Erika and / or our Caring Ministry Team will visit, pray, and support you – whatever feels most appropriate to you. We are family.

You are not alone.

# MARCH 2022

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

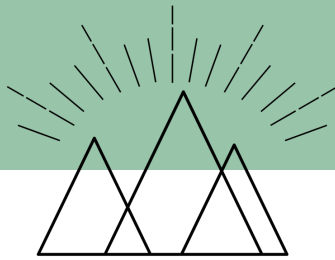
SAT

<b>06</b> <i>Potluck Sunday</i> 10am – Worship Lent 1 (Leader: <b>Px</b> Erika) 12:30pm & 2pm – Redeemer URRC	<b>07</b> (7pm – Boy Scouts)	<b>08</b> (Noon – Yoga)	<b>09</b> (4pm – Yoga) 5:30pm – Soup Supper 6:30pm – Holden 7pm – Choir	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	
<b>13</b> <i>Daylight Savings!</i> 10am – Worship Lent 2 (Leader: _____?) 12:30pm & 2pm – Redeemer URRC	<b>14</b> (7pm – Boy Scouts)	<b>15</b> <i>Office Closed</i> (Noon – Yoga) 6:30pm – WAM	<b>16</b> (4pm – Yoga) 5:30pm – Soup Supper 6:30pm – Holden 7pm – Choir	<b>17</b> <i>St. Patrick's Day</i>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	
<b>20</b> 10am – Worship Lent 3 (Leader: <b>Px</b> Erika) 12:30pm & 2pm – Redeemer URRC	<b>21</b> (7pm – Boy Scouts)	<b>22</b> (Noon – Yoga)	<b>23</b> (4pm – Yoga) 5:30pm – Soup Supper 6:30pm – Holden 7pm – Choir	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 9am-2pm – Preschool Circus Event 6pm – Book Group	<b>26</b>	
<b>27</b> 10am – Worship: Lent 4 (Leader: Pastor Mel <b>Yessca</b> ) 12:30pm & 2pm – Redeemer URRC	<b>28</b> (7pm – Boy Scouts)	<b>29</b> (Noon – Yoga) Noon – Newsletter Submissions are due	<b>30</b> (4pm – Yoga) 5:30pm – Soup Supper 6:30pm – Holden 7pm – Choir	<b>31</b> <i>Newsletter goes out</i>			

Note: **Red Dates** = Days when Pastor Erika is unavailable // **Green Dates** = Days when **Px** Erika is available and is doing the work of the church.

View COSLC's most up-to-date calendar at:  
[WWW.COSLC.WS/CHURCHCALENDAR](http://WWW.COSLC.WS/CHURCHCALENDAR)





# Christ Our Savior

Lutheran Church

## CHRIST OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

Where we are Inspired by God's Love to Praise, Nurture, and Serve

We Praise God in Worship, Song and Prayer

We Delight in the Diversity of All of God's Children

We Support & Nurture One Another through the Love of Christ

We Gather to Grow through God's Grace

We Reach Out, Serve, and Incite Miracles



1612 Oceanview Drive  
Anchorage, AK 99515

office@coslc.ws | (907) 345-3858

Facebook & Instagram: @COSLCak | [www.coslc.ws](http://www.coslc.ws)

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Pastor Erika Bergh

(907) 717-5015 | pastor@coslc.ws

If you need pastoral care or help with anything, please call or text Pastor Erika.  
May you know Christ's love, this month and always.