



The Messenger

The monthly newsletter of Immanuel Lutheran Church

February
2021



Notes from Nancy



"Sing to the Lord, all the earth. Tell of his salvation from day to day. Declare his glory among all the peoples. For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; he is to be revered above all gods." 1 Chronicles 16:23-25

Lent, (Ash Wednesday is Feb 17th) from its earliest beginnings, was kept as a time of preparation for baptisms at Easter. For those already baptized into the faith of the church, Lent was a season of baptismal renewal. This central baptismal focus of Lent continues for the church today.

Lent invites the believer to consider what baptismal living and dying means and how being baptized radically changes everything. Lent, then, is not a season of applied sorrow or forced sadness, but a time of growth, enabled by discernment for all Christians as they continually uncover the mysteries of baptismal living. *Sundays and Seasons*, Augsburg Publishing

If indeed Lent is a time for growth, then we individually and as a congregation have work to do. How can we best live out our baptismal identity as individuals and as the church?

Jesus calls us one by one as people of the church to be his disciples. And that discipleship has something to do with community, compassion, comfort and commitment. We believe in and follow a God who loves us, who teaches us, who lives with us and suffers with us, and who gives us strength.

We are called to clothe ourselves with love. We are called to let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts, remembering always that we are called in the one body.

God awoke you and me this morning for this purpose: *"Declare his glory among the nations (and community), his marvelous deeds among all peoples."* (1 Chronicles 16:24)

I think it would be time well spent, if during Lent, each of us would focus on: praying to be filled with the Holy Spirit, sharing the love of God, telling what he has done for us and inviting all to share at the Lord's Table.

I believe the results would be that individually and as a church we would grow deeper in faith and love towards others.

It is what God's calls us to do!



Happy Valentine's Day!



Welcoming All, Growing Together in Faith, Sharing Christ's Love



Ash Wednesday
February 17
12:15 pm & 7:00 pm

Join us as we begin the Lenten season with the Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion. If you attend in-person, please wear a mask and physically distance from others not in your family. For those who wish to participate virtually, the 12:15 pm worship will be live-streamed on our Facebook page and ashes will be available to pick-up at the church.

Midweek Lenten Worship

Lenten services will be posted on our Facebook page each Wednesday.

Ash Wednesday & Lenten offering will be given to DVACK (Domestic Violence Association of Central Kansas). A special basket will be in the narthex for these donations. Offerings may also be marked for DVACK and mailed to the church.

Winter Weather

As we enter the season of winter weather advisories, please know that any cancellations of church activities will be posted on the congregational Facebook group ([private](#)) and page ([public](#)), KSAL.com and local radio/TV stations that we are able to contact. If you feel the roads are not safe to travel on, please stay home!



Christian Symbols



A fountain, or well, symbolizes Jesus, our living water. Jesus told the Samaritan woman at the well that everyone who drinks the water he gives will never thirst again. It “will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life,” Jesus said (John 4:14).

Congregation Council Action
from December 2020:

Approved motion to cancel the January 2021 Congregational meeting.

Approved recommendation for Gary Arpin, Corlene Lange, and Steve Michel to serve as volunteer financial secretaries for 2021.



The Domestic Violence Association of Central Kansas (DVACK) began as a grassroots organization led by concerned community mem-

bers in Salina, Kansas that recognized a need for services for survivors of domestic and sexual violence. DVACK was incorporated in 1980 and have since grown into the agency we are today, serving 10 counties in North-Central Kansas.

Offices are located in Salina and Concordia as well as a confidential, safe-shelter in Salina. DVACK proudly serves Cloud, Dickinson, Ellsworth, Jewell, Lincoln, Mitchell, Ottawa, Republic, Saline & Washington counties.

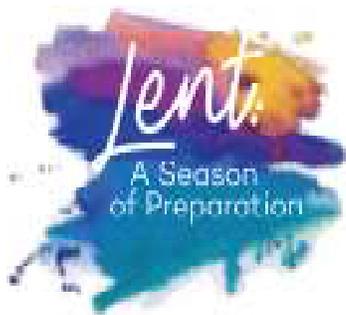
DVACK provides **FREE, VOLUNTARY & CONFIDENTIAL** support services to primary and secondary survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, teen dating violence, elder abuse & human trafficking.

DVACK works from a victim-centered, trauma-informed approach providing immediate and on-going direct support services. It is the goal of DVACK to provide physical, mental and emotional support for individuals who are or have been in an abusive situation. DVACK is a place for all survivors regardless of gender, race, religion, age, sexual orientation, disability or criminal status to receive support with the utmost dignity and compassion. All individuals have the right to live a life free of abuse, and DVACK doors remain open 24-hours a day to help those individuals fleeing from violence. Advocates are available 24-hours a day, 7 days a week. It is DVACK’s job to remain apprised of trauma-informed care and resources so that they may effectively assist you in your healing journey. Whether you need someone to listen or you are in crisis we are here for you to provide **hope**, to **empower** you, and to assist you as you **heal**.

In addition to survivor service, DVACK staff conduct a multitude of educational presentations and trainings to various community organizations, agencies, businesses, civic groups and individuals in an effort to raise awareness and educate on the dynamics domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, human trafficking, teen dating violence and elder abuse.



“I would permit no man, no matter what his color might be, to narrow and degrade my soul by making me hate him.”
—Booker T. Washington



What is Lent?

The season of Lent derives from the ancient Church's period of preparation for those who were to be baptized at the Easter Vigil. That preparation included instruction, fasting, repentance, prayers, and special acts of devotion.

Today the entire church uses this same period and some on those same practices to prepare for the Resurrection of Christ.

The word Lent comes from the old English word "lencten" which means "lengthen" and is a reference to the lengthening of days that occurs during this time of year. For that reason, Lent is associated with Spring. As the earth sees rebirth and renewal, so Lent is a time for Christians to consider our rebirth in baptism and engage in spiritual renewal as preparation for Easter.

To assist in this spiritual renewal, the church makes noticeable changes in its worship. The "Alleluia" and the Hymn of Praise are removed from the liturgy. Hymns and songs become more reflective in nature. The paraments and banners are darker. Crosses and crucifixes are covered with veils to emphasize how sin separates us from God. Everything turns inward until the victorious Resurrection when the colors brighten, the veils are removed, and the Alleluias and praises break forth in joyous celebration.

Lent is 40 days long, counting Ash Wednesday (and minus the 6 Sundays, which are little celebrations of the resurrection). Those 40 days identify with Jesus' 40 days of fasting and prayer in the wilderness as he prepared for his ministry; with Moses' 40 days of fasting and prayer on Mt. Sinai as he waited to receive the Law from God; and with Elijah's 40 days of fasting and prayer on his way to Mt. Horeb, the mountain of God.

A Handbook for the Discipline of Lent, The Rev. Thomas L. Weitzel

Do you have an article for the Messenger?

Please send information to office@immanuelsalina.org

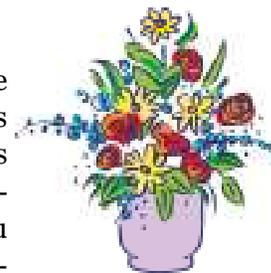
Deadline for the newsletter is the 15th of the month.

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Flower Delivery

Volunteers and vehicles are needed to deliver Valentine's Day flowers for the Dillon's store on Cloud. COVID protocols will be followed. If you would like to help, please contact Mindy Tillberg. Monies raised will be used for youth events.



Altar Guild

Wednesday, Feb 10 at 5:15 pm
Monthly meeting

Potted Tulip orders are due March 22. The cost is \$12 each. You may pick up your tulips after the 11am worship on Easter Sunday, April 4. They must be picked up no later than April 11. Please use the enclosed Order Form to purchase your tulips.



LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF Season of Hope

As we approach Lent, so many of our neighbors around the world are longing to experience — to truly touch, hear, see, smell and taste — the hope that only Jesus can bring. Meanwhile, we know that many of you are restless and eager to be Christ's hands and feet in a world reeling from hardship.

During this sacred time, Immanuel will join Lutheran World Relief in serving our poorest neighbors by providing real, tangible hope. We will be gathering items for Personal Care kits to help fill LWR's empty warehouse shelves. Items needed are:

- Lightweight bath towels (between 20"x40" and 52"x27")
- Bars of bath soap (8-9 oz bars, in original wrapping)
- Toothbrushes (adult size)

Items collected through Easter Sunday, April 4.



We are looking for 3-4 volunteers to get trained in the usage of the iPad for church usage and church functions. If you would like to help, please contact Mike Tillberg.