

The Messenger

Cross of Christ Lutheran Church

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Paul Mueller, Pastor



Worship Services

Sunday: 10:00 am

Wed. 4:00 pm: at Flowers Wed.

6:30 pm: at White Cliffs

Worship at White Cliffs every

Fourth Sunday: 1:30 pm

Communion

*First and third Sundays and
Wednesdays of each month.*

Bible Classes

Sunday: 9:00 am

Tuesday: 11:00 am & 1:30 pm

Wednesday: 1:30 pm

Thursday: 1:30 pm & 7:00 pm

Thursday 4:15 pm (Catechism)

Men's Bible Class

Second Saturday: 9:30 am

Sunday School

Sunday: 9:00 am

~~ FEBRUARY 2020 ~~

Message from the Pastor

Jiggle the Wire

In my college years, money was scarce. Whose funds weren't? My car reflected my financial condition. Sad-looking, more rust than metal, needing constant help. But it ran, and that's all that counted. My car was like me: not pretty but dependable. A good-old '67 Dodge Dart.

Unlike my next-door neighbor's car. She was about my age, but my opposite. She was pretty, but not dependable. She had a car given to her by a relative—who was gonna junk it till she begged him for it. It barely ran; but only if it weren't too cold, or too wet, or too hot. You get the picture.



Her boyfriend tried to help but he was no mechanic. Often, she would drive somewhere and come back out to a car that would not even turn over. She would bat her eyes and get some good Samaritan to open the hood, to aid this poor damsel-in-distress. Then, she would tell him "Jiggle the wires" and soon there would be a connection—of sorts—and the car would start. This happened so often that 'Jiggle the Wire' was almost her nickname.

One day her car wouldn't start in her driveway. So she asked me to help. I opened the hood. "Just jiggle the wire" she repeated her mantra.

Well, I did—and the negative ground wire to the battery came off right in my hand! I told her I would go and get some tools and take care of it for good. "Oh don't bother. Just jiggle the wire." she said. "No", I replied, "It will just take me five minutes to fix it for good." She wanted to continue with the jiggling, but I insisted. Five minutes later, her car had a solid connection—no jiggling needed.

I thought, how many people treat their relationship with Jesus the same way. When they run into trouble (their lives won't start), they try to jiggle the Jesus wire. Just a quick connection so they can get where they want to go. Then, when another issue comes up and they can't help themselves, it's time to jiggle the wire again.

How much they need a permanent and solid connection to the Lord. It's like Jesus said in John 15, **"I am the vine and you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit. Apart from me you can do nothing."**

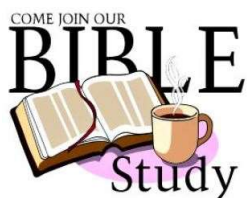
But for too many, it's too much effort or bother or they're too busy or whatever, but there is no lasting relationship with our Lord. Just jiggle the wire. I'll fix it later—which is often never. What a waste!

How would you describe your relationship with Jesus? A firm connection; hit and miss; just holding on? What do you want it to be?! What should it be?! God invites us to have a firm connection with him: every Sunday in worship; every time we open the Bible; every moment in prayer. Let me help you make a lasting connection with Jesus. Be there every Sunday at 10:00 and in Bible Class. You'll be glad you did.

Often, we take our cars for granted, don't we? The same is true with Jesus. We expect both to be there when we need them. However, if we don't take care of either, what happens? There's a breakdown. Fortunately, God is always ready to 'reconnect' with us. Don't just 'Jiggle the Wire'.

UPCOMING EVENTS – All are welcome!

Feb 2 nd	Mission Festival & Pie Auction	Prof. Paul Prange will conduct Bible Class and the sermon for our MISSION FESTIVAL . He is the Chairman of the Joint Mission Council. He'll talk about the work in Southeast Asia, and particularly Vietnam where our new Seminary is being built. After the meal, we'll have our famous Pie Auction. We welcome your donations. A Thrivent grant allowed us to purchase ham for the meal that day. Please bring side dishes to go along with that.
Feb 9 th	Annual Meeting	Recap of 2019 and plans for 2020 will be discussed.
Feb 15 th	Lunch	Join us as we check out the new Black Bear Diner
Feb 23 rd	Movie & Pizza	We'll be showing the movie <i>Grace Unplugged</i> and having pizza dinner together.



Sunday 9:00 The Gospel of John (video)
 Tuesday 11:00 Lessons for us from Samuel
Tuesday 1:30.....Bible Basics
 Wednesday 1:30..... Roadmaps to Reading the Bible
 Thursday 1:30 Grace
 Thursday 4:15 Youth Bible Study (Catechism)
Thursday 7:00.....Bible Basics

Something to Think AboutHumbly Self-aware

Satan just cannot abide Christians walking peacefully and happily along the middle of the road of our lives. He will either try to shove us or shame us or intimidate us into sliding off into the ditch of insecurity, despair, and depression on one side. Or he will lure and flatter and entice us into the other ditch where smugness, arrogance, and pride rule. He loves it when we attempt to make ourselves look bigger by making other people look smaller.

The ancient Greeks used to say "Know yourself." Easy to say; hard to do. How can we cut through the fog of Satan's lies and the deception of our slick and sick culture? How do we pierce the fog of our own strong tendency to self-deception and actually accurately assess ourselves? "By the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you" (Romans 12:3).

God has given us several important gifts in self-understanding. One is his Word and the faith in our hearts that listens to and trusts that Word. The Bible is a corrective word when we are wrong and weak and a commending word when we are aligned with God's ways. Another is our family. Who better has the confidence to tell us when we're out of line? You generally can't go wrong when you make other people feel important.

Pastor Mark Jeske

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ASH WEDNESDAY is February 26. That begins the season of Lent. On that Wed. evening (and the next 5) we have a special worship service at 7:00. On Ash Wed. we impose ashes on those who wish as a reminder of what Jesus has done for us.

RUMMAGE SALE

We are accepting donations for our Spring sale. Contact Leena Meza (928-377-6244) with questions.



– HUMOR –

Little Johnny was listening to a Bible story. His dad read: 'Lot was warned to take his wife and flee out of the city but his wife looked back and was turned to salt.' Concerned, Johnny asked: 'What happened to the flea?'



For this particular Sunday sermon, the minister began, 'Dear Lord,' with arms extended toward heaven and a rapturous look on his upturned face. 'Without you, we are but dust...' He would have continued but at that moment a five-year old girl who was listening leaned over and asked quite audibly in her shrill little voice, 'Mom, what is butt dust?'

NEW BIBLE INFORMATION CLASS This class is designed to explore the main teachings of the Bible. If you have questions about the Bible, here is the opportunity you have been looking for! Pastor starts with how God gave us the Bible, then the life of Jesus, the Commandments, Prayer, Baptism and Holy Communion. It is taught in a way that makes the Bible easy to understand. Classes are on Tuesdays at 1:30 pm and Thursdays at 7:00 pm.



FEBRUARY FELLOWSHIP MEALS SCHEDULE

<u>DAY</u>	<u>MAIN DISH</u>	<u>HOST(S)</u>
2 nd	HAM	Gene & Shari
9 th	SOUP & SALAD	Mark & Rhonda
16 th	INTERNATIONAL	Christine & Peggy
23 rd	CASSEROLES	Wilma & Irma

JANUARY

<u>Worship Attendance</u>	<u>Fellowship Meal Attendance</u>
5 & 8	92
12 & 15	78
19 & 22	89
26 & 29	90

*We are always in need of the
following items for our Sunday morning
meals:*

Lg. & small dinner plates (heavyweight paper)
Dessert plates (heavyweight paper)
Dessert/Soup bowls (heavyweight paper)
Forks, knives & spoons (heavyweight/plastic)
Coffee (regular & decaf)
Powdered coffee creamer
Rolls of paper towels

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Providing a dish to share at the Sunday meal  
or kitchen supplies & food items are greatly  
appreciated.



## FEB BIRTHDAYS

|                  |                 |
|------------------|-----------------|
| 3 <sup>rd</sup>  | Joyce Shaffer   |
| 16 <sup>th</sup> | Gale Parker     |
| 18 <sup>th</sup> | Lynda Boyd      |
| 21 <sup>st</sup> | Leonard Rezac   |
| 22 <sup>nd</sup> | Bill Neal       |
| 27 <sup>th</sup> | Margaret Henry  |
| 28 <sup>th</sup> | Marilyn Jenkins |
| 29 <sup>th</sup> | Mark Hutchins   |



## FEB ANNIVERSARIES

|                  |                      |
|------------------|----------------------|
| 14 <sup>th</sup> | Leo & E. Jane Galvan |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> | Dave & Leena Meza    |



**FEB USHERS**  
Tim Mangelsdorf  
Duley Nelson  
Jesse Mangelsdorf  
Don Nomann  
Stanley Tomaszewski  
Kenny Woods



# **THE LADIES CIRCLE**

## **FEBRUARY NEWS**

Thank you to all the ladies who attended January's monthly meeting on Jan. 11<sup>th</sup>.

The devotion for January was "Health" - Proverbs 31:17 and 22.

### ***February Meeting Info***

**Date: Saturday, Feb 8<sup>th</sup>**

**Time: 9:30 am**

**Where: Education Building**

**Devotion series: virtues of a proverbs 31 woman**

***All ladies of the congregation are invited to our monthly meetings. We look forward to the Christian fellowship, planned activities and the missions we support!***

### **LADIES CIRCLE BOARD & COMMITTEE VACANCIES - HAVE BEEN FILLED!!!**

***Secretary - Christine Hanson was appointed by Rhonda Hutchins, President.***

***Events/Prayer Chain Call Leader - Carol Staley volunteered for the position.***

***(Note: Cheryl Winter, former secretary and call leader for events/prayer chain has relocated to Wisconsin. We wish Cheryl the very best and will miss her dedication and love for the church, as well as the Ladies Circle).***

### **FUTURE ACTIVITIES:**



- ***Spring bake sale (fundraiser)***
- ***Ladies tea party in May***





# FEBRUARY 2020

| Sun                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Mon                      | Tue                                                                                                                          | Wed                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Thu                                                                                                                       | Fri                       | Sat                                                                                                                           |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                          |                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                           |                           | 1                                                                                                                             |
| <b>2 Mission Festival</b><br>9:00 am Bible Class & Sunday School<br>10:00 am Worship Service<br>11:15 am Fellowship Meal<br>12:00 pm Pie Auction<br> | 3                        | <b>4</b><br>8:00 am Work Day<br>11:00 am Bible Class<br><br>1:30 pm Bible Basics Class<br><br>6:00 ELDERS MTG                | <b>5</b><br><br>1:30 pm Bible Class<br><br>4:00 pm Worship Service at Flowers<br>6:30 pm Worship Service at White Cliffs                                                                                                    | <b>6</b><br><br>1:30 pm Bible Class<br><br>4:00 pm Worship Service at Flowers<br>6:30 pm Worship Service at White Cliffs  | 7                         | <b>8</b><br>9:30 am Men's Bible Breakfast<br>9:30 am Ladies Circle Meeting                                                    |
| <b>9</b><br>9:00 am Bible Class & Sunday School<br>10:00 am Worship Service<br><b>11:00 am Annual Meeting</b><br>11:15 am Fellowship Meal                                                                                             | 10                       | <b>11</b><br>8:00 am Work Day<br>11:00 am Bible Class<br><br>1:30 pm Bible Basics Class<br><br>6:00 COUNCIL MTG              | <b>12</b><br><br>1:30 pm Bible Class<br><br>4:00 pm Worship Service at Flowers<br>6:30 pm Worship Service at White Cliffs                                                                                                   | <b>13</b><br><br>1:30 pm Bible Class<br><br>4:00 pm Worship Service at Flowers<br>6:30 pm Worship Service at White Cliffs | <b>14</b> Valentine's Day | <b>15</b><br>11:00 am Black Bear Diner<br> |
| <b>16</b><br>9:00 am Bible Class & Sunday School<br>10:00 am Worship Service<br>11:15 am Fellowship Meal                                                                                                                              | <b>17</b> Presidents Day | <b>18</b><br>8:00 am Work Day<br>10:00 am Fellowship Committee Mtg<br>11:00 am Bible Class<br><br>1:30 pm Bible Basics Class | <b>19</b><br><br>1:30 pm Bible Class<br><br>4:00 pm Worship Service at Flowers<br>6:30 pm Worship Service at White Cliffs                                                                                                   | <b>20</b><br><br>1:30 pm Bible Class<br><br>4:00 pm Worship Service at Flowers<br>6:30 pm Worship Service at White Cliffs | 21                        | 22                                                                                                                            |
| <b>23</b><br>9:00 am Bible Class & Sunday School<br>10:00 am Worship Service<br>11:15 am Fellowship Meal<br><br>1:30 pm Worship Service at White Cliffs<br><br>3:00 pm Movie <i>Grace Unplugged</i>                                   | 24                       | <b>25</b><br>8:00 am Work Day<br>11:00 am Bible Class<br><br>1:30 pm Bible Basics Class                                      | <b>26 Ash Wednesday</b><br><br>4:00 pm Worship Service at Flowers<br>6:30 pm Worship Service at White Cliffs<br>7:00 pm Worship Service | <b>27</b><br><br>1:30 pm Bible Class<br><br>4:00 pm Worship Service at Flowers<br>6:30 pm Worship Service at White Cliffs | 28                        | 29                                                                                                                            |