News Peace



Peace Lutheran Church, Camdenton, MO

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March 2024

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Christian Symbols



have in Christ Jesus. As a caterpillar disappears into a chrysalis, so Jesus' lifeless body was hidden in a tomb. The emergence of the butterfly, rising into the sky in its beautiful new body, reminds us of Christ's resurrection — and ours.



Lily—The lily that blooms around Easter is a symbol of Christ's resurrection be-

cause it rises from a seemingly lifeless bulb decaying in the ground. It is also used as a symbol of Christ himself. The lily, a symbol of purity, is often used to represent the Virgin Mary.

The Day of Resurrection

Encore Post: He is risen! He is risen indeed! Hallelujah!

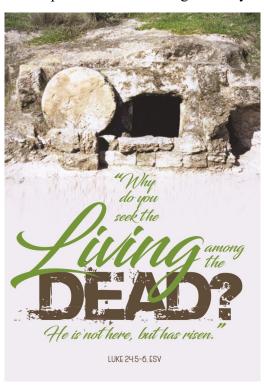
n the silence of a cold, dark tomb the world changed forever. Just as he promised, Jesus rose from his rest in the grave, breaking the seal of the tomb forever. And no one noticed.

The Romans were really good at torturing people to death. Crucifixion was a slow death, designed to kill with the maximum amount of pain and humiliation possible. If the Romans killed you, you were dead. Jesus, in fact, was already dead when the soldiers moved to hurry up the process to get the bodies into a grave before sunset and the beginning of the Sabbath.

Once they laid Jesus in the tomb, no one expected him to go anywhere. Pilate ordered the tomb sealed by the authority of Rome, setting its seal on the stone that shut it off from the world. Had he not risen from death, the women would have completed his embalming and they

would have mourned him seven days. After a year, they would gather his bones into a stone box. In fact, this is what Caiaphas' family did. Archaeologists have found his box. Had he not risen, likely no one today would even know the name of Jesus.

But Jesus did rise from the dead. The seal of our graves is broken. When we die now, our spirits live with him until the last day. When Jesus returns on that day, he will call our bodies from the grave and a new creation will occur. We will finally be whole — our bodies — like





March

4 Carol Croft

20 Tom & Annette Greenwald



Spring Ahead

Don't forget to turn your clocks ahead one hour on Saturday, March 9 before going to bed.

Church Office Schedule

Church office hours are Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday from 8 a.m. to noon. Phone number is 573-836-8141 his resurrected body — will be fit for eternal life. Death no longer has a sting. The grave no victory. (1 Corinthians 15:55-57)

This is why Easter strikes such a chord with Christians. It is why we greet each other with joy... Christ is risen...

Rev. Robert E. Smith



Lenten Midweek Series Living Among the Trees!

March 6: Jesse's Tree

March 13: Tree of the Lord's Planting

March 20: Good Trees Bearing Good Fruit, Bad Trees Bearing

Bad Fruit

Maundy Thursday, March 28: Fig Trees
Good Friday, March 29: Tree of the Cross
Easter Sunday, March 31: Tree of Life

I hope you will join us for this unique Lenten series about Biblical Trees! All Midweek Services begin at 6 p.m.

Hospitalized?

If you or a loved one is hospitalized, have experienced a death in the family, are home bound, or scheduled to go to the hospital, please call Pastor Brandt (580-421-8108). Please keep in mind that privacy laws also limit the information hospitals can share with us. Pastor

Brandt is available for any emergency, or any issue you and your loved ones might be having.

Our Elders: Jeff Hedberg (573-819-4446), Jeff Emery (816-745-0229) and Larry Trick (573-286-4423) will assist in helping the pastor follow up on any issue, not just hospitalization for you, a loved one or a death in the family.



Lily Lewis playing the handbell during the Lord's Prayer. Thank you Lily.

Thrivent News

If you need any assistance with directing your Thrivent Choice Dollars to your church/ charity of choice, please contact Julie Cochran at 573-693-9272. The deadline to direct the dollars is March 31.

EVERY ONE HIS WITNESS

The LASSIE Approach in Review

here isn't just one way to do evangelism. It needs to take into account many factors. That may include the cultural norms of those we wish to share the Gospel of Jesus with. Also, our experiences with them and what the religious landscape of the society looks like may play a roll.

What is effective for one may not be for others. What opens the way to share the Gospel for one may close the door for another. Evangelism is contextual. The message never changes, but how it is delivered may need to change based on the circumstances.

Evangelism is also relational. It necessarily involves engaging with people with whom we have – or will have – relationships. How we go about being witnesses of Jesus needs to consider both the contextual and relational dimensions if we are to be faithful and effective witnesses.

LASSIE is an acronym for an approach to witnessing to people in our everyday lives. The letters stand for Listen, Ask, Seek, Share, Invite, and **E**ncourage.

LASSIE is relational in that it focuses on us speaking of Jesus with the people whom God has placed in our lives. It is contextual in that it provides a flexible and adaptable framework that can be used in a wide variety of witnessing situations from ongoing relationships with family to one-time encounters with the people in our lives.

Next up: A key concept for using LASSIE: Head, Heart, and Hands.

by Mark Wood director of LCMS Witness & Outreach Ministry





News of Peace is a monthly newsletter of Peace Lutheran Church, 9307 North State Highway 5, Camdenton, MO LUTHERAN CHURCH 65020; Rev. Gary Brandt: 580-481-8108; Church Phone: 573-836-8141; Office Hours: Tues., Wed., Thurs., 8 am to 12 pm; Church email: plccamdenton@gmail.com; Website: www.plccamdenton.org

Our Mission: "We the members of Peace Lutheran Church gather and grow together as God's children and rejoice in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, proclaim His word, and reach out with his love to: each other, our community, and the world."



A sign up sheet is available on the credenza in the narthex for those members who like to purchase an Easter lily. The cost is noted on the sign up sheet.

Place the money in a separate envelope marked Lilies and write your name on it.

Thank you to all who donated a lily. They are a great addition to our Easter celebration.



The LWML ladies will be serving an Easter Brunch after the 9 a.m. worship service on Easter Sunday.

There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex for food items and also a sign-up sheet to let us know the number of people that will be attending in your family.

ANSWERING OBJECTIONS TO THE FAITH

Some Will Believe, Others Will Not

We must keep in mind when telling others about Jesus that not everyone will listen. Some will be preoccupied with other things. Others will see the implications that acknowledging the resurrection will have on their lives and will be willing to believe.

Ultimately, we do not know why people decide as they do. But we know that some people will want to know more, and some will heed the message and become believers in Jesus Christ and come into His Kingdom in doing so.

We must never underestimate the power of the Gospel message of Christ; as Paul said, "For I am not ashamed of the Gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek" (Romans 1:16).

The Gospel is powerful because the Holy Spirit uses it to create faith. The Holy Spirit uses this Gospel message, and only this Gospel message to create a new spiritual life of faith in all those who believe the message. And we remember once again that the power of God's word in the Gospel of Christ is the same For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

1 Corinthians 1:18, NIV

power that called the universe into existence out of nothing. Submitted by Russell Schulz, Evangelism Chair

Be the Donkey

Corrie ten Boom, a devout Christian who helped shelter hundreds of Jewish people from Nazis during World War II, was asked how she stayed humble despite her fame.

"When Jesus rode into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday on the back of a donkey,



and everyone was waving palm branches and throwing garments onto the road and singing praises, do you think that for one moment it ever entered the head of that donkey that any of that was for him?" she replied. "If I can be the donkey on which Jesus Christ rides in his glory, I give him all the praise and all the honor."

Jesus told his followers they'd need to carry (or "take up") their cross. But how well do you carry your Savior? How do you bring him into a world that desperately needs the good news of the gospel?

Devotion for March



And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

Hebrews 10:24-25

he subject for the following devotion was suggested to me by Mr. Ian Adnams, director of Communications for Lutheran Church -- Canada. The article title said "25 percent of Swiss People Are Unbelievers."

Ian Adnams, the director of Communication for Lutheran Church -- Canada sent me a note which said, "Shouldn't this read, "75 percent of Swiss People are Believers"?

What a wonderful point of view... and of course it is right. The world in general and the media in particular, just love to report anything negative about the church. Of course, I suppose it is true that good news doesn't sell papers. When I started to read through the article, I did come across some interesting information. It said the interviewers found that the religious views of the Swiss are divided into four different groups.

Those groups are:

- The Distanced. The distanced are the folks who might attend church on occasion but for whom religion isn't all that important. They have beliefs, but the institutional church doesn't always shape those beliefs.
- The Institutional. Although it isn't a very complimentary title, the Institutional folks are the ones for whom church is important and who are faithful attendees.
- The Secular. The secular are those who are indifferent or hostile to the church. As one misinformed man said, "Religion is synonymous with violence, war, and conflict."
- The Alternative. The alternative group is those who are interested in meditation, reincarnation, and herbal medicines.

Reading through that list, I thought a great many people I know would fit into one of those four categories. And it was that statement which led to the choice of Bible verses for today: "let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works."

Indeed, what can you and I do to bring back the Distanced, reclaim the Secular and reach out to the Alternatives? Our response to the Savior who gave His life for our forgiveness and salvation says we have to try. We have to try and let the Holy Spirit do the work through the Word. And that, as St. Paul says, is my encouragement to you.

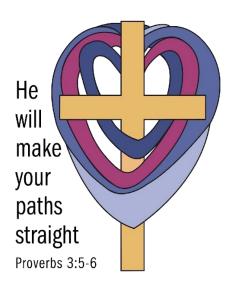
The Prayer: Dear Lord, I feel sorry for the deserters, the discouraged, the seekers and searchers. Please use me and the talents you have given me to calmly reach out. This I ask in the name of my Suffering Servant Jesus. Amen.

In Christ I remain His servant and yours,

Pastor Ken Klaus (Pastor Klaus 1948-2023 was speaker of The Lutheran Hour® Lutheran Hour Ministries lhm.org archived devotions)



Coming in June 2024



JUNE 7-9, 2024

LWML MISSOURI DISTRICT CONVENTION

STONEY CREEK HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTER

18011 Bass Pro Drive Independence, MO 816-908-9600 Code LWML 24 Wake up in the Word and Bible studies with author Deb Burma

Friday Night Fun with cornhole and karaoke

Mission Servant Events

Photo Booth

Saturday Night Trivia

Afternoon Mission Walk

Mission Fair

Silent Auction

Exhibitors Booths

Mites in Action Speakers

Breakout Sessions

LWML Store

HOTEL RESERVATIONS
NOW OPEN!

Call the hotel directly and use Code LWML 24

Convention
Registration opens
MARCH 1, 2024
Registration will be
online only

As Lutheran Woman in Mission, we joyfully proclaim Christ, support missions, and equip women to honor God by serving others.

March Mtg.

Our first meeting at Peace will be on Monday, March 18 at 9 a.m. Remember to pick up the calendar booklets located in your mailbox. We would like to do a mission project on a monthly basis.

The roll call word is **eternal life**. See you on March 18.

2024 Mission Walk

June 8 @ 4:30 p.m.

Waterfall Park Trail

(includes a draw string bag, coupons, snacks, etc.)

Join us on a peaceful nature walk (1.25 miles) behind Stoney Creek Hotel where there is an 18-acre lake, turtles and a large waterfall.

Proceeds collected from this walk will support the 2024-2026 LWML Missouri District Mission Goal.

Please bring your pledged donations to the Mission Walk table in the Registration area.)

FAITH is to believe what we do not see; and the reward of this faith is to see what we believe.

—St. Augustine

Support Schodulos

Support Scheaules						
	Elder	Altar Guild				
March	Larry Trick	Deb Mayes				
April	Jeff Hedberg					
May	Jeff Emery	Susan Kral				
June	Larry Trick					
July	Jeff Hedberg	Cindy Niebur				
August	Jeff Emery	Paula Emery				
September	Larry Trick	Diane Borgmann				
October	Jeff Hedberg	Janet Bartels				
November	Jeff Emery	Diane Borgmann first two Sun Dawn Hedberg last two Sun				
December	Larry Trick	Diane Borgmann first two Sun Dawn Hedberg last two Sun				
Minister	Rev. Gary Brand	t				
Organists	Organists Rev. Gary Brandt, Diana Schwab					
Ushers						
1st Sunday	1st Sunday Robert & Penny Hansen, Paul Bartels					
2nd Sunday	Sunday Earl Hartenstein, Jeff & Paula Emery					
3rd Sunday	ay Diane Borgmann, Rodney Schulz					
4th Sunday	y Jeff & Dawn Hedberg, Russell Schulz					
5th Sunday	5th Sunday Robert Hansen, Earl Hartenstein, Jeff Hedberg					
Counters						
1st Sunday	Jeff & Dawn Hed					
2nd Sunday	Jeff & Paula Eme	ery YOU				
3rd Sunday	Brett & Cindy Niebur/Pudge McCloud					
4th Sunday	Matt & Deb May	es				

5th Sunday

Pudge McCloud

Pressec

Gethsemane, the name of the place where Jesus prayed before his betrayal, is an Aramaic word for "olive press." During Bible times, olives were pressed three times to remove all the valuable oil. Before being arrested in the Garden of Gethsemane, Jesus felt the full pressing weight of our sins on his shoulders. Surrounded by olive trees, praying fervently while sweating drops of blood, the perfect Son of God asked his heavenly Father three times to remove the cup of suffering.

Instead of removing that trial, God used it to redeem and save humankind. Likewise, God uses our hardships to refine and strengthen our faith.

In *The Rock. the Road and* the Rabbi, TV host Kathie Lee Gifford and Messianic Rabbi Jason Sobel speculate that if Peter, along with James and John, hadn't fallen asleep in Gethsemane, he may have had the strength to not deny Jesus later that night.

"All of us must be vigilant to watch and pray so that we don't succumb to the temptation to deny the Lord when we go through the olive presses of life and feel like we are being crushed by our situation and circumstances," the authors write. "We must remember that it is the crushing that brings out the true inner value and worth of the olive."







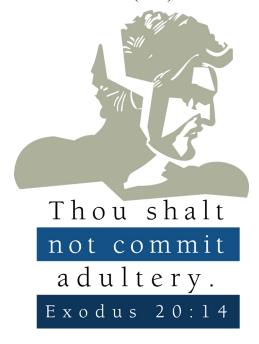
Stewardship

Cherish What God Has Given

n the Small Catechism, Luther follows a pattern when explaining the Ten Commandments. With each commandment, there is something prohibited, and something commanded. There is something wrong which must be avoided, and there is something right which must be done.

The one time this pattern is not followed is with the Sixth Commandment.

"You shall not commit adultery. What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we lead a sexually pure and decent life in what we say and do, and husband and wife love and honor each other" (SC I).



Here, the catechism focuses solely on the positive: we should live in a chaste and decent manner in both word and deed, and husbands and wives should cherish and honor one another.

Keeping this commandment, and all of the commandments, is a lot easier if you see your chastity and your spouse as a gift from God that is to be protected and cherished. In the same way, you will find keeping the Fourth Commandment easier if you see your parents and other authorities as a gift from God, given to you for your blessing.

This is the key stewardship insight that runs through all of the Christian life: Everything that we have has been given to us by God. We deserve none of it. All of it comes to us by God's fatherly kindness and open-handed generosity. If I know that everything I have every possession, every relationship, every ability — is a gift from God, then my perspective changes. All of these things are both gifts to be cherished, and things that I should direct towards God's purposes. My possessions should be shared gener...he gave them all the commands the Lord had given him on Mount Sinai.



ously according to how God has called me in my family, church and community. My spouse should be cherished, loved and encouraged in faith. My children are on loan from my own Heavenly Father, and I have but a brief time to show them the path of righteousness. My neighbor is a gift from God so that I can imitate His kindness toward me.

No matter the gift, everything has been given to me by God so that I may participate in His own goodness and open-handed generosity.



Sunday Worship* 9:00 am Bible Class/Sun. School 10:30 am

Wednesday Evening Services:

 Ash Wednesday 	6:00 pm
During Lent	6:00 pm
 During Advent 	6:00 pm

Holy Week

 Maundy Thursday* 	6:00 pm
 Good Friday Service 	6:00 pm
Easter Sunday*	9:00 am

Thanksgiving Eve

Wednesday Evening 6:00 pm

Christmas Eve

Evening Service 6:00 pm

The Lord's Servants at Peace

• Elders—Monday before Council Meeting 9:30 am Chairman: Jeff Hedberg, Jeff Emery, Larry Trick

• Council—2nd Tuesday of Each Month 6:30 pm

♦ President: Bob Hansen

♦ Vice President: Brock Kliewer

◆ Secretary: Susan Kral

◆ Financial Secretary: Brett Niebur ◆ Treasurer: Peggy Callahan

• **Stewardship:** Dawn Hedberg

• Evangelism: Russell Schulz

• Education: Open

• Organists: Rev. Gary Brandt, Diana Schwab

• Trustees: Chuck Kral, Rodney Schulz, Pat Callahan

LWML—2nd Monday from March—Nov. 9:30 am

Co-President: Dawn Hedberg and Cindy Niebur

Altar Guild: Dawn Hedberg

Bible Studies As announced

• Elected Offices

Council Meeting

February 13, 2024

Vice President Brock Kliewer called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. Pastor Brandt opened with prayer based on Psalm 8.

The following board members were present: Pastor Pastor Brandt, President Bob Hansen, Vice President Brock Kliewer, Board of Elders Jeff Hedberg, Evangelism Russell Schulz, and Church Members Pudge McCloud and Rodney Schulz

Absent: Treasurer Peg Callahan, Financial Sec. Brett Niebur, Secretary Susan Kral, Trustee Chuck Kral, Cemetery Diane Borgmann, and Stewardship Dawn Hedberg

The minutes from the January 2024 meeting were approved as printed.

Financial Secretary: There was no report.

Treasurer: Peg submitted her report.

- The invoices for the tree removal and the installation of the library window have been paid.
- The \$5,000.00 payment for the new library window was taken from the church extension fund.
- GFL is charging \$72.68 for trash removal. Bob Hansen made a motion to cancel GFL. It was suggested that we begin taking trash to a service station. The charge would be \$5.00 for a large bag. Jeff Hedberg will check prices with other trash companies.
- At guest Pastor Ron Lehenbauer's request, she voided the check written for his leading the Feb. 4 service.
- The IRS 1099 forms have been completed for Pastor Brandt, Pastor Anderegg, Don Springer, and Pudge McCloud.

Her report was accepted and approved.

Elders: Jeff reported the following:

- The meeting was attended by Pastor Brandt, President Bob Hansen, and Elders Jeff Hedberg, Jeff Emery, and Larry Trick.
- There was discussion regarding the purchase of Publisher to be installed on the office computer. The purchase would make the changing of messages on our electronic sign easier. Brock offered to see if upgrading Word would make that purchase unnecessary.

^{*}Holy Communion

- There is concern that Diana may not be comfortable with the amount of organ playing she is experiencing. We may need to use our CD music. It's possible that Pastor Brandt could assist using a keyboard.
- The report was accepted and approved.

Trustees: Chuck submitted the following:

- He contacted Tom's Heating and Cooling. A holder was made so that the furnace filter can be slid in or out. The filter was being sucked into the blower motor.
- Pat Callahan removed the brush that was left when bushes were taken out.
- Rodney Schulz piled and burned brush in the cemetery. He also purchased diesel fuel using the Thrivent card.
- Bob Hansen was present when the library window was installed. Chuck will paint the outside frame when the weather permits.
- On Feb. 20 Chuck and Bob will meet with the company that will replace the exit sign lights.
- Rodney Schulz will contact DNR gravel for a bid to put rock where bushes were removed.

Chuck's report was accepted and approved.

Education: Vacant

Evangelism: Russell reported the following:

- The cost of sending 129 outreach cards in January was \$114.81.
- He submitted a bill to Peg for \$37.50 to pay Lake Media for weekly ads.
- He will contact Lake Media regarding the placement of an Easter ad.

Russell's report was accepted and approved.

Stewardship: There was no report.

Member at Large: Vacant

Cemetery: There was no report

Pastor's Report:

Pastor Brandt reported the following:

- He enjoyed his vacation. He appreciates Trey Dille and Pastor Ron Lehenbauer for leading services in his absence.
- He thanks our excellent secretary Pudge McCloud for preparing our Lenten and Sunday bulletins.

- On Feb. 13 he attended the monthly Sedalia Circuit Pastors' Conference in Appleton City. Missouri District President Lee Hagen was the guest speaker. He tries to visit each circuit once a year.
- Ash Wednesday falls on Feb.14. His nine-part Lenten sermons theme is "Living Among the Bible's Trees." He is praying for good attendance at our special services.

His report was accepted and approved.

President's Reports:

Old Business: Bob was present when Andersen Windows removed the old library window. The entire bottom of the frame had significant water damage. The damage was repaired and a water barrier was installed. The installers were thorough and professional. He recommends Andersen Windows for any future window work needed. He thanks Don Springer and Chuck Kral for bringing the problem to our attention. There could have been serious damage to the library wall.

New Business: None

Bob and Jeff moved to adjourn the meeting.

Pastor Brandt led the closing with The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Susan Kral Secretary and Acting Secretary Pudge McCloud

Voters Meeting Minutes February 18, 2024

Following a potluck brunch, President Bob Hansen called the meeting to order at 11:30 A.M. Eighteen members were present.

Pastor Brandt opened with prayer.

The minutes of the October 22, 2023 Voters Meeting were approved as printed.

Reports:

Treasurer's Report: The reports are printed in the newsletter.

Financial Secretary's Report: The reports are printed in the newsletter.

Auxiliary Organization Reports:

LWML: Co-President Dawn Hedberg reported that the March meeting will be held on March 18th. The ladies will use the LWML Quarterly for Bible studies.

Thrivent: We have a Thrivent account that was opened when Norma Flenker left money to the church.

Cemetery: There was no report.

Pastor's Reports: His reports are published in the monthly newsletters.

- In addition to what was published in the monthly newsletters, Pastor Brandt reported that he visited and gave communion to Susan Kral on February 18.
- He is pleased with the good attendance at our Ash Wednesday service. He hopes that the good attendance continues.
- Sunday Bible study attendance has improved. There is always room for more people!

Elders Report: The elders' reports are published in the monthly newsletters.

Trustees: The trustees' reports are published in the monthly newsletters.

Evangelism: The reports are published in the monthly newsletters.

President's Report: The president's reports are published in our monthly newsletters.

Old Business:

- Chuck will meet with the electrician who will repair our exit signs on February 20.
- As of this date, our 2023 donations to local missions have not been sent.

New Business: None

The meeting was adjourned.

Closing: Pastor Brandt closed the meeting with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Susan Kral, Secretary and Associate Secretary Pudge McCloud

Stop, Look and Listen

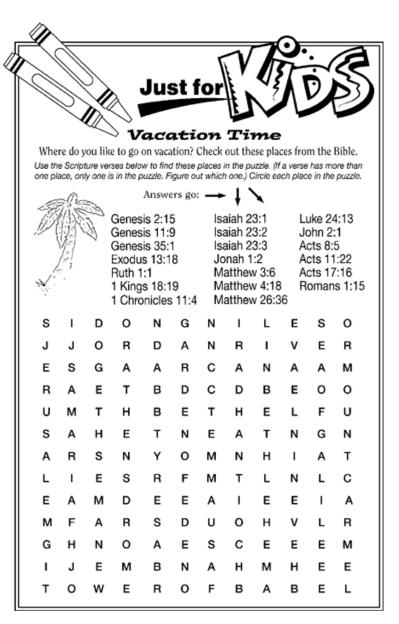
Why should we observe Lent?

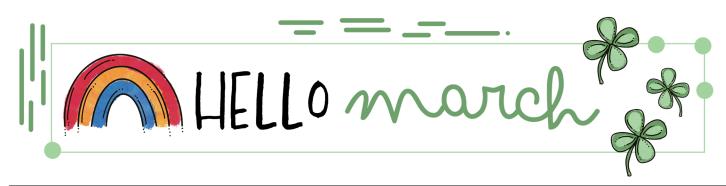
We observe Lent because it causes us to **STOP**. Lent says, "Stop and rest awhile." Lent says, "Stop doing wrong."

We observe Lent because it tells us to **LOOK**. Look inward for an honest self-examination. Look upward to see the cross of Christ with healing and love. Look forward to the hope of the Resurrection.

We observe Lent because it tells us to **LISTEN**. Listen to the words of Christ. Listen to the voice of God. Listen to the winds of the Spirit of God.

Stop, look and listen. These three words are important for our safety in travel, but they may also be helpful for our journey through the days of Lent.





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
Worship 9 am Bible Study 10:30 a.m.	Elders Mtg 9:30 a.m.	5	Lenten Serv 6 p.m.	7	8	9
Worship 9 am Bible Study 10:30 a.m.	11	Council Mtg. 6:30 p.m.	Lenten Serv 6 p.m.	14	15	16
Worship 9 am Bible Study 10:30 a.m. St. Patrick's Day	18 Newsletter Deadline 9 a.m. LWML Mtg 9 a.m.	19 First Day of Spring	Lenten Serv 6 p.m.	21	22	23
Palm Sunday Worship 9 am Bible Study 10:30 a.m.	25	26	27	Maundy Thursday Service 6 p.m.	Good Friday Service 6 p.m.	30
Easter Sunday Worship 9 am Easter Breakfast						