

THE PATHFINDER

website www.ctslutheran.com
Publisher CTS

e-mail ctslutheran@pctcnet.net
Volume 28 Issue 2

Phone (715) 762-4107
February 2012



The month of February will see changes in our sanctuary. We begin the month in ordinary times,

the Sundays after Epiphany where we welcome the green paraments in this snowy cold month. February 19th we will celebrate the Transfiguration of Our Lord Sunday. The Sundays after Epiphany began with the Baptism of our Lord and conclude with the three disciple's vision of His transfiguration. Once again we will hear the same words naming Jesus as God's beloved son. We hear Paul's proclamation that we are able to see God's light in Jesus' face and the white paraments are present. And then, Ash Wednesday on February 22 begins Lent, with a solemn call to repentance as we begin our journey to the baptismal waters of Easter and purple decorates our worship space. As the sign of ashes suggests our human mortality and frailty, we cling to the invitation to make each day a new beginning, washed in God's mercy and forgiveness at the baptismal font.

So even though we often think of February as a month where there is no change and we can suffer "cabin fever" while waiting for spring, it is actually a month of transition this year in the church. Our worship committee has been busy working on enhancing our worship experience, so I invite you to "come and see" what God has in store for you at Christ the Servant.

And as we prepare for the Lenten season it is important to begin thinking about your personal piety and the devotional life of your families during this most important season. Wednesday evenings, during Lent, we will be focusing with a sermon series on, "You Shall Love the Lord Your God". I wish for you a Lent that will be a solemn call to repentance as you journey to the baptismal waters of Easter.

Peace be with you,
Vicar Gwen

Annual Giving Statements were mailed out mid-January. If you have not received yours please contact Mike Seehafer at 715-518-9038.



"If we had no winter, the spring would not be so pleasant; if we did not sometimes taste of adversity, prosperity would not be so welcome."
— Anne Bradstreet

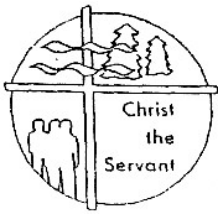
"Faith is a knowledge within the heart, beyond the reach of proof." — Kahlil Gibran



The First Sunday of every month is
Food Pantry Sunday.
The Last Sunday of every month is
World Hunger Sunday



JOIN THE CHOIR FOR EASTER!
Voices of all sorts needed!
Choir practices will be on March 11, 18, 25 and April 1st after worship at 11am.



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MEETINGS THIS MONTH

Alcoholics Anonymous Meetings

Tuesdays at 7:00 pm.
Fridays at 5:30 pm.



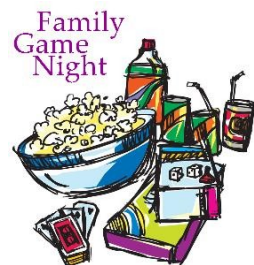
Narcotics Anonymous Meeting

Thursdays at 6:00 pm (Women Only)
Saturdays at 7:00 pm.

Hi-League meets on Wednesdays at 5:30.
All High School age students are invited to attend. *Will NOT meet during Lent Feb. 22-April 4. Meetings will resume on April 18.*

Confirmation Class will be on Wednesdays at 4pm. *Will NOT meet during Lent Feb. 22-April 4. Class will resume on April 18.*

Park Manor worship Feb 19th 2:00 pm
Volunteers are needed to help serve communion.



Feb 11 5pm to 7 pm.
Our church family will have a **fun night playing games and enjoy a chili supper and dessert.** Come

join the fun, any size family of any age. Everyone is welcome. Bring your favorite game.

Save the Date

Annual meeting of the congregation will be on February 19th at 10:45 am with a pot lunch luncheon to follow.



SPECIAL DATES

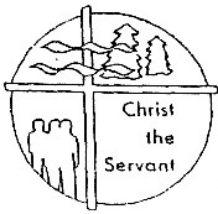
- African-American History Month
- Boy Scout Sunday, February 5
- Valentine's Day, February 14
- Transfiguration of Our Lord, February 19
- Presidents Day, February 20
- Ash Wednesday, February 22
- First Sunday in Lent, February 26



Friday Bible Study 10:00 am
Prayer: An Adventure with God

Sunday Bible Study 11:00 am
The Life of Paul for Today

Book Club We are reading the novel If I Gained the World. Monday, February 27 at 5:30 pm we will meet to discuss the whole book.



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Please remember these people and these requests in your prayers this week.

Health – Norma Barnes, Rick Dumproff, Cheryl Rhodes, Alison Hill, Gwen Pitchard, Darlene Roberts, Sam & Karen MacGregor, Beverly.

Cancer – Dawn Terwall

Confirmation ~ Hi-League ~
Adult Bible study ~ College Students ~
Church Council ~ CTS ministry.
Children AIDS orphans in Malawi,
hunger/poverty in the world.
Time-Out Shelter
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Malawi,
Sani Mission area, Pastor Peter
Vinkhumbo, Bishop Bvumbe.

Counseling services provided by
Limberg & Associates Counseling are
available at Christ the Servant on
Tuesdays and Fridays. To make an
appointment please call 1-800-788-5882.

This year we will be joining the First United Church of Christ in Park Falls for Wednesday Lenten worship. We will alternate weeks beginning Feb. 29. They will also share in our soup supper schedule. The church hosting worship will serve the soup and the visiting church will bring the desserts. *If you are not a member of the groups serving and would like to help out, there are items listed on the sign up that will need to be brought in.* Please sign up in the entry to verify who will be helping.

Feb. 22 – 7:00 pm Ash Wednesday
Worship Imposition of Ashes (CTS only)

Lent Worship Schedule

Feb. 29 - Soup by altar guild at CTS

March 7 – desserts at UCC

March 14 - soup by Hi-League at CTS

March 21 – desserts at UCC

March 28 - soup by council at CTS

Set up 5:30 pm. Supper 6:00 pm. Worship 7:00 pm.

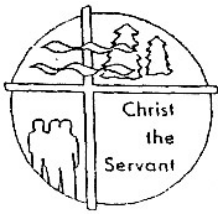
April 1 - 9:30 am Palm Sunday at CTS

April 5 – 7:00 pm Maundy Thursday

Worship at CTS

April 6 – 7:00 pm Good Friday Worship
at CTS

April 8 – 9:30 am Easter Sunday
Worship



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REFOCUS FOR LENT

- Give up complaining — focus on gratitude.
- Give up harsh judgments — think kind thoughts.
- Give up worry — trust God to provide.
- Give up discouragement — be full of hope.
- Give up bitterness — turn to forgiveness.
- Give up hatred — return good for evil.
- Give up anger — be more patient.
- Give up pettiness — become mature.
- Give up jealousy — pray for trust.
- Give up gossiping — control your tongue.
- Give up sin — turn to virtue.
- Give up giving up — persevere.
- Author unknown



TRANSFIGURATION

All over this magnificent world, God calls us to extend his kingdom of shalom-peace and wholeness — of justice, of goodness, of compassion, of caring, of sharing, of laughter, of joy, of reconciliation. God is transfiguring the world right this very moment through us because God believes in us and because God loves us.

What can separate us from the love of God? Nothing. Absolutely nothing. And as we share God's love with our brothers and sisters, God's other children, there is no tyrant who can resist us, no opposition that cannot be ended, no hunger that cannot be fed, no wound that cannot be healed, no hatred that cannot be turned into love, no dream that cannot be fulfilled.

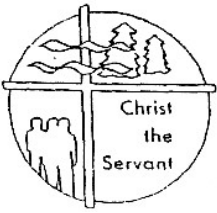
—Desmond Tutu, *God Has a Dream*

LEARNING FROM PETER'S MISTAKES

In Mark 9:2-10, Jesus takes three disciples up a mountain, where his clothes become dazzling white and Moses and Elijah speak with him. Terrified, Peter starts babbling. He offers to construct three “dwellings” — presumably, worship structures. But Peter makes two common mistakes.

First, he fails to treat Jesus as the unique object of worship. Just as Peter would have worshiped Moses and Elijah alongside Jesus, we sometimes act as though money, work, another person or even church and Scripture are coequal with Christ. Obviously, family and friends are important, but Jesus is the only Son of God. The church and the Bible, though worthy of devotion, are only vehicles that bring us to Christ.

Second, Peter would have stayed on that mountain indefinitely. Spiritual highs are tempting that way. We resist going back “down” to daily life. Ecstatic glimpses of Jesus' glory are one way God strengthens us to continue serving in Christ's name.



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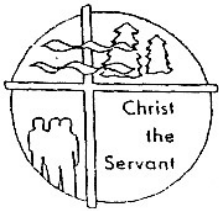
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FEBRUARY						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	Groundhog Day 2	3	4
			4:00 pm Confirmation 5:30 pm Hi-League	6:00 pm NA (women only)	10:00 AM Bible study 5:30pm AA meeting	7:00 PM NA Meeting
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
9:30 am Service 10:30 am Coffee 11:00 am Bible study FOOD PANTRY		7:00 PM AA Meeting	4:00 pm Confirmation 5:30 pm Hi-League	6:00 pm NA (women only)	10:00 AM Bible study 5:30pm AA meeting	5:00-7:00 pm Family game night 7:00 PM NA Meeting
<i>Lincoln's Birthday</i> 12	13	Valentine's Day 14	15	16	17	18
9:30 am Service 10:30 am Coffee 11:00 am Bible study		7:00 PM AA Meeting	4:00 pm Confirmation 5:30 pm Hi-League	6:00 pm NA (women only)	10:00 AM Bible study 5:30pm AA meeting	7:00 PM NA Meeting
<i>Transfiguration of Our Lord</i> 19	Washington's Birthday 20	21	<i>Ash Wednesday</i> 22	23	24	25
9:30 am Service 10:30 am Coffee ANNUAL MEETING POTLUCK LUNCH		7:00 PM AA Meeting	7:00 pm Worship	6:00 pm NA (women only)	10:00 AM Bible study 5:30pm AA meeting	7:00 PM NA Meeting
26	27	28	29			
9:30 am Service 10:30 am Coffee 11:00 am Bible study WORLD	5:30 pm Book Club	7:00 PM AA Meeting	5:30 pm set up at CTS 6:00 pm Supper 7:00 pm Worship			



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PUZZLE

FOLLOW GOD'S EXAMPLE

In a letter to the church in Colossae, the apostle Paul wrote about the importance of forgiveness.

• • • • DIRECTIONS • • • •

To complete Colossians 3:13 (NIV), use the smaller words to fill in the larger words.



gain	as	or	ear	van	an	for	give
gave	her	on	it	one	other	he	an

B _____ w _____ h each
 ot _____ d _____ give
 _____ e an _____ if _____ y
 of you h _____ grie _____ ce
 a _____ st some _____ .
 For _____ as t _____ L _____ d
 for _____ you." COLOSSIANS 3:13, NIV

Answers: "Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you."
 Colossians 3:13, NIV

FORGIVENESS Game

Try this twist on musical chairs.

What you need:

- 28 large index cards
- Black marker
- Two teams of people
- Radio or CD player

What you do:

1. On index cards, write out *forgiveness*, one letter per card. Make two sets (two F's, two O's, etc.).
2. Mix up the cards and form them face up in a circle on the floor. (You'll have six blanks mixed in.)
3. Have teams mix themselves up and stand in a circle around the cards. Ask an extra person to turn the music on and off.
4. As the music plays, teams walk around the circle. When the music stops, players each pick up the card nearest them.
5. Team members take their cards to a designated area and try to spell *forgiveness*. Any double letters or blanks go back to the "music person," who reorganizes remaining cards, spacing them evenly into a fresh circle.
6. Play continues until one team spells *forgiveness*.