

*First Lutheran Church
512 N Ruby Street
Ellensburg, WA 98926-3154*

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ELLENSBURG, WA
PERMIT NO. 21

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

*Easter Sunday Service
at 8a and 10a*



THE FLARE



- 3/28 Last Supper Drama w/Communion 7p
- 3/29 Good Friday Service 7 p.m.
- 3/31 Easter Breakfast 7:30- 10:00 a.m.
- Easter Services 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.
- Kid's Easter Egg Hunt 9:30 a.m.

March 2013

*First Lutheran Church
512 N Ruby St, Ellensburg, WA 98926
509-925-2844
flceburg@yahoo.com † www.flc-eburg.org*

From Our Pastor . . .

You know the old saying about the month of March. “In like a lion and out like a lamb,” or “In like a lamb and out like a lion.” The weather is changeable and unpredictable in March as winter gradually gives way to spring. But regardless of what the weather is doing, this year March will definitely go out like a lamb: the Lamb of God. Easter, the resurrection celebration of our Lord Jesus is on March 31st this year.

So during the last week of March we come to the main things in our Christian faith: the trial, suffering, death and resurrection of our Savior Jesus. On Palm/Passion Sunday, March 24th, we celebrate Jesus’ ride into Jerusalem and proclaim, “Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! (Luke 19:38) A few minutes later we hear the dramatic reading of Jesus’ trial, suffering and crucifixion.

On Maundy Thursday, March 28th, we see the Last Supper acted out and share in the bread and wine, the body and blood of Jesus. On Good Friday, March 29th, we remember the pains Christ bore for us to take away our sin and the sin of the whole world. And we hear the seven last words of Jesus from the cross.

Throughout the month of March we will be in the season of Lent and attempt to walk with our Savior Jesus to the cross. Worship, prayer, Bible reading, fasting, and deeds of love will help us to be intentional in our 40 day Lenten journey.

And then, finally, when Easter dawns on Sunday March 31st, we will be able to fully celebrate the joy of our Lord’s resurrection from death. With Easter hymns and horns and loud voices and Bible readings and friends and breakfast and flowers we will celebrate Jesus’ victory over death. And then we will join the feast of the lamb once slain: the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world and sets us free to be people of God. Christ is risen and he calls us forward to the abundant life of God and to be full participants of the peaceful kingdom of God on earth.

A blessed Lent and Holy Week to us all,

Pastor Dennis

PARISH STAFF

Pastor
Ministry Associate
Organist
Choir Director
Office Administrator
Volunteer Youth Director
Preschool Teacher
Preschool Aides

Dennis Hickman
Carla Bergman
Betty Kramlich
Tor Blaisdell
Christine Rice
Jonathon Motteler
Laura Gorman
Kandice Halferty &
Aimee Stinson

CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS THROUGH JANUARY 2014

Officers:

President
Vice President
Secretary

Brett Koss
Doug Fessler
Patty Akers

Ministry Assignments:

Worship & Music

Erik Hurson
Nancy Budner

Education

Dewey Keith
Neil Caulkins

Youth

Debbie Butler
Lesley Swan

Congregational Life
Outreach

Bev Gruber
Doug Fessler
Dave Stambaugh

Property Management
Stewardship

Mike Luvera
Patty Akers

Non-Council Positions:

Treasurer
Financial Secretary
South Property
Facility Coordinator

Min Meseck
James Stolte
Glenn Madsen
Don Morris

The FLARE is published monthly. We encourage all members to contribute articles which may be submitted to the Church Office by the 15th of each month.

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP ON KXLE-AM RADIO (1240)



PHONE
(509) 925-2844



WEBSITE
www.flc-eburg.org



EMAIL
flceburg@yahoo.com



Remember in Prayer

Anna Richmond (infant daughter of Pete & Melany Richmond), Carrie Michel at the death of her father Donald Rehkopf, June Farrel, Grace Meyer, Bob Malde (knee replacement 2/25), Marian Black (broken hip), Kristi Zembleman (Ron Koester's daughter), Sandy (Berry) Barnett, Tom Alford (Ackerman's son-in-law: melanoma), Roger deVeers, Grace Meyer, Gladys Wahle, Evelyn Carter (Carol Thovsen's mom), Dillon Duncan

(Ian & Bonnie Smith's grandson), Mary Ann Hardenbergh (Tim Dittmer's aunt), Pr. Rick Evenson, the people in the countries of the Middle East, for safety for all U.S. Service Men and Women and their families, especially Jana (Blazek) Kitelinger, Marcus Nelson, Troy Roberts leaders of all nations, and for peace in our world and in our families.

We pray also for our Companion Synod, the Ulanga Kilombero Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania, Bread for the World and FISH Food Bank. We continue to pray for all affected by Hurricane Sandy.

~Please update Pastor Dennis about people on the prayer list~

Without Jesus ...

Without the risen Savior in our hearts, life is like:

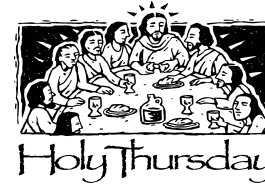
- A chocolate Easter Bunny — empty on the inside;
- An Easter bonnet — easily blown off kilter;
- Last year's Easter outfit — it doesn't quite fit right;
- An Easter lily — it soon withers and dries up;
- A bag of jellybeans — sugary and sweet but lacking substance;
- An unbound Easter basket — full of gifts that spoil and go to waste;
- A colored Easter egg — looks great but cracks under pressure;
- The Easter bunny — always hopping here and there;
- Marshmallow Peeps — becomes hard when opened up;
- Easter parade — a long journey with no destination;
- An unopened Easter card — a message of love unclaimed.

~ David Patterson

Last Supper Drama

Maundy Thursday, March 28th 7:00p.m.

Come see Jesus and the twelve disciples in our Last Supper Drama. Holy Communion, Bible readings and hymns will be part of this Worship Service.



Good Friday

Service of Darkness
March 29th at 7p.m.

We hear the seven last words of Jesus from the Cross and read the crucifixion account from John 18 & 19.

Easter Sunday

March 31st
8 a.m. and 10 a.m.

Easter Sunday: The Resurrection of our Lord Jesus! There will be two Worship Services: 8a.m. and 10a.m. Both will be Holy Communion Services. Come hear the good news of Jesus resurrection and sing the joyous hymns of Easter.



FROM THE BISHOP. . .

God's Beloved People,

We're in the depths of the Lenten season now and it always feels good to me that we "mark" the time even as we wait for the unveiling of the Holy Week drama once again. How are you "marking time?"

One season at Holden Village we marked the passage of Lenten weeks by considering the texts that are read at the Easter Vigil. These are the great stories of the faith that mark the heart of God's walk with humanity since the beginning of time and they are the stories of creation, fall, Exodus and Exile that still inform our life journey in faith. If you're looking for guidance in your private devotions these texts can be found on page 269 of your hymnal, Evangelical Lutheran Worship.

Some of us mark time by the special services, often on Wednesday, that shape this season. One of my favorite parts of this practice are the "soup suppers" that often precede worship. I had the pleasure of eating soup with the saints at Cameron Emanuel on Ash Wednesday and the simplicity of good potato soup, and then an extra bowl of Beef Barley, really hit the spot! What is it about this practice that is so real and tangible and sweetly simple? Part of it is that few of us make soup from scratch anymore and the flavors are unique. I think part of it is the simplicity of soup in a world of "fancy" recipes. Soup is soul food and bears a sense of the cook with it. I love marking time by the bowl!

Susan reminded me this morning that I had planted 70 daffodil bulbs last fall and that she had no idea where they would soon push up and through the soil. I remember writing about the joy of that planting day and now, months later, the time is marked by expectation again. The passage of each day marks creation at work to restore the land to the marvelous fertility we count on for beauty and food and cool shade in the summer. These days are marked by hidden growth and expectation!

Daily devotions also mark the time and many different organizations provide guides for these days. Luther and Pacific Lutheran seminaries have provided a favorite for many years. My favorites are those little volumes sometimes produced in congregations, where members write devotions for the other members. For the writer the sweetness comes from knowing that day by day the congregation is getting closer to the writer's contribution. We pray our friends will be inspired by our words, or comforted. Mostly we hope that what we've written makes a difference! To read these devotions marks the

"What then should we do?"

This was the question that stared us in the face from scripture on the Sunday following the tragedy in Newtown Connecticut. The lesson was John the Baptist's message to the tax collectors, the soldiers, the crowd, and us. Candles were lit, speeches were read, prayers were offered, and tears were shed again, and again, and again. But, we still have the question on our lips, "what then should we do?" John's answer was simple and complex. "Repent."

What does repentance look like? Does it look like increased attention and funding towards mental health? Does it mandate a serious investigation into how most of our entertainment (movies, video games, and television) involves watching others break the 10 Commandments? Do we need to discuss whether or not our country is addicted to violence?

The Church and Society Committee at Central Lutheran Church in Yakima, Washington has been considering all of these questions and more. One area that we believe that the church can stand with a prophetic witness is on safety surrounding firearms. In dialogue with the Yakima Police Department, we conceived a dream to hold a gun safety/gun buy-back day at the church.

We hope to provide trigger locks so that people can store their guns more safely at home, offers of training so that people can handle and transport their guns safely, and we will be offering gas and grocery gift cards for any operable firearm that someone no longer wants to store in their home.

This is truly where our vision starts. The handguns and rifles that are bought back will be crafted into a stand for a baptismal font by a member who is an expert metal worker. Our prayer is that this font will make the journey to Newtown to a church as a message from Isaiah 2:4, "...they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks..."

We have pledges of support from our Church and Society Committee and have also received prayers and monetary support from our brothers and sisters with the Eastern Washington and Idaho Synod of the ELCA. Thank you for living into our Lord's vision of a world where there will be no more war, no more pain, and where every tear is wiped away.

Peace be with you,
Pastor Jim Engel

(Bishop's Note: The Social Ministry restricted account has been tapped for \$1,000 in support of this effort by Central Lutheran. If you would like to support this effort please be in contact with Pr. Engel at 1604 W Yakima Ave, Yakima, WA 98902-2995 or 509-575-6490). This synod newsletter intends to be shared news from across the synod. If you have a creative idea for ministry please write it up and submit it to Cathy Steiner at the synod office.

FLC Youth & Family News

Lutherhaven Night at FLC Tuesday, March 12th

Everyone seemed to have a great time, so come join the fun! All children/youth are invited to enjoy games, songs, prayers and Bible stories with Lutherhaven counselors Lauren Bender and Eric Czirr. Kindergarten through 5th grade meet from 4:30-5:45.

Everyone, including parents, is invited for dinner at 5:45 pm. Then middle school and high school meet from 6:15 to 7:40. This is shaping up to be a great thing for the kids and youth of First Lutheran Church! See you March 12th!



There will be NO Sunday School classes for children and youth on March 17 and March 24, the two Sundays of Spring Break, or on Easter Sunday, March 31st. Classes will resume April 7 and the last day for classes this school year will be May 20.

We appreciate our Sunday School teachers and their dedication and commitment to the goal of sharing their faith and teaching God's Word. Thanks to all of you for your service!

The Adult Sunday Class will meet on 3-17 and 3-24, not on 3-31

Palm Sunday March 24th



All children ages preschool to 5th grade are invited to participate in the "Procession of the Palms" on Palm Sunday, March 24th.

Please meet in the Bible Adventure room right before the service to receive palms and to line up.

days in company with fellow members who took the time, months ago, to compose a word from God for us, for me. These days are marked by thankfulness for the company of saints in our congregations.

I pray these Lenten days are a blessing for you and marked by thankfulness, expectation, and hope.

God's richest blessings,
Pastor Martin Wells, Bishop

Easter Breakfast & Easter Egg Hunt

Please check out the sign up sheets in the Fellowship Hall. It's time to prepare for our annual Easter Breakfast and Easter Egg Hunt. We need lots of help and there is something for everyone.

If you can provide food, candy, and/or labor, we can get it done! Please, keep an eye on future Sunday bulletins for more information about final preparations. **THANK YOU!**

Youth and Parents-we especially need your help!



Every Sunday is A Little Easter

Beginning with the first Easter, the celebration of the Resurrection has been the focus of Christian worship. Because the early disciples were Jews they would have observed the Sabbath on Saturday. However, the first day of the week became the day for Christian worship. It was known as the Lord's Day, the day of Resurrection. Our weekly Sunday worship is a celebration of Jesus' resurrected presence with us - a little Easter each week.

The season of Lent is 40 days long, not counting Sundays. The actual number of days from Lent's start on Ash Wednesday to (but not including) Easter Sunday is 46 days. But because the church sees every Sunday as a mini-Easter celebrating Christ's resurrection, the six Sundays that occur during those 46 days are not counted as part of Lent.



FLC Cooks Dinner at F.I.S.H. Food Bank Saturday, March 16th

We need helpers at 3:00 to prepare food; 4:00 to set-up. Then folks come to eat at 5:00, followed by clean up. Doug Fessler is the team leader. Please let him know if you can help.

News from our Companion Synod

Word has reached us that the Tumaini School in Ulanga Kilombero, Tanzania is in financial difficulty and has had to borrow money to feed the students. They are behind in paying their teachers. Tuition has had to be increased because of the rising costs of everything. The Global Mission/Companion Synod Committee will meet soon and consider helping the school out with these "basics" before anything further happens with the dining hall. The Outreach Ministry is hoping to raise money to aid our companions.

Outreach

Easter isn't Over

During your preparations for Easter, you may have heard someone say, "All this work and it'll all be over so soon." Sorry, but they're wrong.

Easter as a celebration of the return of spring, the Easter of the Easter Bunny and colored eggs and candy, fancy hats and new spring clothes may be over by Easter Monday, not to come around again until next year.

But the true Easter, the celebration of Christ's resurrection, is never over. Easter is the reminder and the celebration of a continuing fact: Christ, who was raised from death, is alive today, tomorrow and forever. Daily he offers us and the whole world power to begin new life now.

Soup, Bread, Study, Worship on Wednesdays in Lent

Our Soup-n-Bread Suppers this Lenten season will
Continue on March 6, 13, 20

Come at 6 pm for a simple, but hearty meal of soup and bread. Our various ministries will take a turn providing the meal on the 5 Wednesdays. (Thank You!)

About 6:45 we'll have some study and discussion time around the tables. This year we'll watch a short DVD clip from "Making Sense of the Cross" with David Lose, look up some Bible passages and discuss them.

Then at 7:10 we'll move into the sanctuary for a 20 minute worship service using Holden Evening Prayer. Come join in.

Middle/High School are invited for Soup and then Youth Night with Jonathon 6:40-7:30p



*Set your clocks ahead one hour
Saturday night, March 9th!*

Because of Easter

"The joyful news that [Christ] is risen does not change the contemporary world. Still before us lie work, discipline, sacrifice. But the fact of Easter gives us the spiritual power to do the work, accept the discipline, and make the sacrifice."

~ Henry Knox Sherrill

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SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS

March 3, 2013

Isa. 55:1-9
 Ps. 63:1-8
 1 Cor. 10:1-13
 Luke 13:1-9

March 17, 2013

Isa. 43:16-21
 Ps. 126
 Phil. 3:4b-14
 John 12:1-8

March 31, 2013

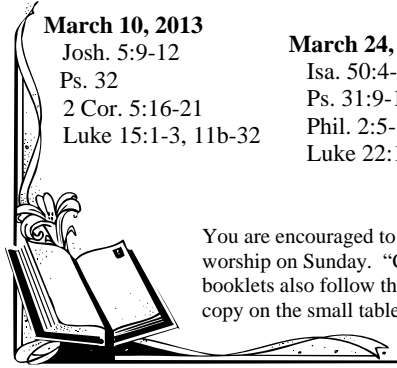
Acts 10:34-43
 Ps. 118:1-2, 14-24
 1 Cor. 15:19-26
 Luke 24:1-12

March 10, 2013

Josh. 5:9-12
 Ps. 32
 2 Cor. 5:16-21
 Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

March 24, 2013

Isa. 50:4-9a
 Ps. 31:9-16
 Phil. 2:5-11
 Luke 22:14-23:56



You are encouraged to read these in preparation for worship on Sunday. "Christ in our Home" devotional booklets also follow these Bible readings. Pick up your copy on the small table by the front doors.

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Worship with Holy Communion.....March 3, 10, 17, 31
 Worship on Wednesday.....March 6, 13, 20, 27
 Bible Study, Fellowship, Prayer Group.....March 7, 14, 21, 28
 Church Council Meeting.....March 11
 First Communion Classes.....March 3
 Men's Lunch.....March 5, 19
 All Ministry Meeting.....March 10
 Lenten Soup, Study & Worship.....March 6, 13, 20
 Last Supper Drama 7p.....March 28
 Good Friday Worship Service 7p.....March 29
 Easter Service 8a and 10a.....March 31
 Easter Breakfast 7:30 to 10a.....March 31
 April Flare Deadline.....March 15



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|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1 Dewey Keith | 22 Karl Lillquist |
| 3 George Hugo | 25 Ann Kivi |
| 3 Mark Blazek | 25 Dirk Kivi |
| 4 Bill Vertrees | 28 Lisa Saucier |
| 4 Lauren Wickerath | 31 June Farrell |
| 8 Gracie Luvera | 31 Carrie Michel |
| 9 Ken McNamee | |
| 10 Janice Johnson | |
| 11 Nate Gruber | |
| 11 Melva Schmidt | |
| 14 Sam Young | |
| 15 E.J. Black | |
| 22 Liston Idler | |



Fred & Charlene Watterson
 3/12/60

Gordon & Lesley Swan
 3/21/92

Peter & Margaret Gries
 3/18/79

Don & Ann Ringe
 3/28/53

Robert & Lovelia Case
 3/20/42

Wade & Julie Stacy
 3/30/86



calendar

calendar