



Reformation Lutheran Church

“Come and See, Learn and Rejoice, Go and Tell!”

March, 2019

***** “Now Peter and those who were with him were heavy with sleep, but when they became fully awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him.” (Luke 9:32)

How amazing, how glorious and yet how perplexing it must have been for Peter, James, and John to open their sleepy eyes to see, on each side of Jesus, two heroes of the faith, Moses and Elijah. There likely was a sense of awe and a holy fear. I wonder if they thought that their eyes were playing tricks on them, or if they pinched themselves to see if this was a dream. But it wasn't. This was a holy moment.

In the world today, it seems like such holy moments are far too rare. We tend to look at such holy moments as those things that make us exceedingly happy or ecstatic. We, perhaps, look to a worldly success of ourselves, our favorite sport teams, and other people, and think of some happening or other as “holy moments.” A holy moment for us might have been the first time we held our baby, or the beauty of the sunset over a mountain view, perhaps our first airplane ride. But, you know, what often gets lost are the holy moments before us as people of God.

When we gather in worship, the Holy Spirit brings us into an awe filled encounter with God. We enter hearing words from the Word of God which build up God's people of the one holy and apostolic church. We hear the holy message of belonging to God as the liturgy begins with the triune name of God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We enter into the presence of the Almighty like Moses, Isaiah, and others who recognized their unworthiness, confessing that we are sinners. In a wondrous beauty, we are met with God's Word, forgiving us all our sins. We recall God's claim upon our own lives, how he adopted us and others, and made us his own. In the Holy Scriptures, we hear about God's work to rescue sinners from the enslavement of sin, death, and the devil. We hear the Gospel message of Jesus' saving work for us. Then, we hear this message proclaimed in the sermon. We come before the Lord in prayer, offering our praise and thanksgiving, as well as interceding for the needs of the church, our neighbors, and the whole creation.

From there we come to another holy moment, where we hear that on the night in which he was betrayed, Jesus took bread and wine and gave his body and blood to his disciples then, and to his disciples, all of you, now.

Each moment with Jesus is a holy one; each moment with Jesus is not unlike the moments the three disciples had on the mount of transfiguration. Being in our worship service or spending some time reading scripture during your day, those are holy moments too. May we recognize each one for what it truly is and rejoice in His abiding presence with us, His presence with us that is, as He has promised us, even unto the end of the age.

Pr.

I am very encouraged by all the positive things I see happening at RLC! There are many activities planned for both our church itself and outreach into the community, and tithing has increased. May the promise of Spring and renewal of the Earth, renew our spirits and awaken in us fresh possibilities and energy to share God's word and carry out His will in, and outside of, RLC!

Blessings to all,
Gabi

Treasurer's Report: If you put cash in the offering plate, please put it in an envelope with your name

on it so you can get credit for your contribution. Thanks!

Yours in Christ, Matthew DeWinter

Fellowship: Fellowship had a fun game night with lots of laughter in February. We played a men vs women game (I won't say who won) which we may do again later in the year.

Coming up in March will be Lenten meals beginning on the 13th. Meals at 6 pm and service at 7 pm. We still have a couple of openings for people to prepare the meals. The sign-up sheet is in the Fellowship Hall.

Also be sure to mark your calendars for Amy's wedding shower. It will be on April 7 immediately after church. We'll have a light lunch and everyone is invited!

Judy

Property: . Our clean up day for March will be Saturday the 30th.

Junior

Worship and Music: We are entering the season of Lent. Wednesday, March 6 is Ash Wednesday, so we will be conducting Wednesday services.

Beginning on the second week of Lent we will begin conducting a Wednesday service at 12:00 to allow those who may not be able to make it to evening services. This is the first step in reaching out to those in the community who are over 65.

Gospel readings for Lent will begin with Matthew on Ash Wednesday and then follow on with Luke for the remainder of the season.

Ever wonder why we say Lent is 40 days long? Each of the Gospels tell us that Jesus endured Satan's temptation for forty days without eating. The early church fathers decided that the church should remember these forty days of temptation with forty days of repentance and preparation before Good Friday and Easter. Since the early church fathers thought that every Sunday was a "little Easter," they did not count the Sundays in those forty days. That is the reason that this Sunday is called the First Sunday **in** Lent and not the First Sunday **of** Lent. That is also the reason it takes us forty-six calendar days to get through the forty days of Lent. We are continuing our periodic "religious issue" that goes out to the entire congregation and allows everyone to think about what often times will be contentious or controversial issues. We've not had a lot of people comment on these, so I challenge everyone to look them over, give them some thought and send in your comments.

Parish Education: There will be no Bible study until after Easter.

Mission and Ministry: After much praying, a little trial-and-error, and a bit of planning, outreach 2019 is starting to take shape. On March 31st, Jenna Carrick from Seneca For Life, will be joining us immediately after the service to give us a presentation on what Seneca does. If you're not familiar with Seneca, they are the crisis pregnancy center next door to Columbus' abortion clinic. I know I want us to reach out and become involved with them but I'm not sure what that looks like right now. Please plan to stay for her presentation and the reception afterwards.

On, Monday, April 8th Pat Hunsaker & I will be visiting the Harris County Senior Center with refreshments and a Yahtzee tournament. We will be giving prizes to the winners. If you have anything that you would like to contribute to the prize pool it would be much appreciated. I'm looking for items in the \$5-\$10 range. If you would like to join us let me know!

For Easter we will be having an Easter Basket outreach for the children at Damascus Way. Gabi Owen will be applying for a Thrivent card to offset some of the cost (Thanks, Gabi!) but I'm sure we'll still need some candy and/or small toys to fill out the baskets. We will also be taking photos with the Easter Bunny at Damascus Way and here at the church in the afternoon.

In the meantime, Jay & I will continue to reach out to our neighbors. I encourage you to do the same. "For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." Ephesians 2:10

Blessings,

Tea` Jordan

P.S. We will be meeting this month with the Fellowship committee.

LUTHERAN MEN – March is the campaign month for the Buck-A-Month Club. Every man in an LCMC congregation is urged to join and to give \$12 a year (preferably at one time) to the Mission Loan Fund. Why \$12? There were 12 Disciples. The \$12 is to remind us that Jesus called us to be his disciples in the world today. There were 12 Tribes of Israel. They were called to be God's People, even as today the Gospel of Jesus Christ calls us to be God's People. There are 12 months in a year, and \$1 a month is an achievable goal for just about everyone. Just imagine what we can achieve if every man in LCMC becomes a member of the Buck-A-Month Club. By giving a single dollar for each month of the year, you can greatly help mission and small congregations reach that often times impossible goal of obtaining a new building. Please consider becoming a member of the Buck-A-Month Club. Last year we had 100% participation. Our challenge is to repeat that for 2019!

There will be a bulletin insert in each Sunday. Simply fill it out, attach a check and put it in the offering plate.



March Birthdays

2nd – Eli Ervin

15th – Karen Erickson

27th – Don Grigsby



(p.s. - the women won!)

Sunday – March 3rd - Executive Council

Wednesday – March 6th – Pancake Supper – 6:00
Ash Wednesday service – 7:00

Saturday – March 9th – Turn your clocks FORWARD one hour!

Sunday – March 10th - council

Wednesday – March 13th – Lenten meal 6:00 Services 12:00 & 7:00

Wednesday – March 20th – Lenten meal 6:00 Services 12:00 & 7:00

Thursday – March 21st – AARP Driver’s Class – 9:00 – 4:00

Wednesday – March 27th – Lenten meal 6:00 Services 12:00 & 7:00

Saturday – March 30th – clean up day – starting at 9:00

Sunday – March 31st – Seneca for Life presentation after church

Mar.3 Mar.10 Mar. 17 Mar. 24 Mar. 31

Altar Guild	Linda	Wayne	Carolyn	Judy	Junior
Worship Asst.	Gabi	Wayne	Chuck	Amy	Gabi
Comm. Asst.	Amy	Mel	Junior	Chuck	Amy
Usher	Wayne	Junior	Mel	Judy	Carolyn
Lector	Junior	Amy	Chuck	Lynne	Matthew
Children	Kathy	Wayne	Gabi	Kathy	Wayne
Sermon	Pastor	Pastor	Pastor	Wayne	Pastor
Riverplace	Tea`				
Thrive	Pastor	Chuck	Pastor	Chuck	Pastor