

# OUR SAVIOUR LUTHERAN CHURCH

## NEWSLETTER

Pastor Al Muck  
751 N. Maple Grove Ave.  
Hudson, MI 49247  
517-448-6271

March 2020



### Church Council

Church Council will meet Sunday, March 1st, following service.

### Midweek Lenten Services

The Midweek Lenten Services are Wednesdays March 4, March 11, March 18, March 25, and April 1 at 7:00 PM.

### Ladies' Guild

Ladies' Guild meets on Thursday, March 5th at 7:00 PM at the church.

### Easter Egg Hunt

The United Hudson Churches' Community Easter Egg Hunt will be held Saturday, April 4, located in the back of the High School. The egg hunt is at 1:00 PM. Volunteers are needed. Setup will be Saturday, April 4, starting at 9:00 AM.

### Forgiveness is key

“If the wounds of millions are to be healed, what other way is there except through forgiveness? Jesus, at least, leaves us no alternative. The command is stern. The terms are set: ‘But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.’”—Catherine Marshall

### Thrivent members

Thrivent members remember to designate your Choice Dollars to Our Saviour by March 31<sup>st</sup>.

### Bloom

A gardener planted two small shrubs side by side. During the dry summer, both plants struggled to get established. One developed black spots and lost most of its leaves. The gardener assumed the little plant wouldn't survive but was sure the healthy-looking shrub would bloom.

The following spring, to the gardener's great surprise, the stronger plant had not a single bloom but the weak, stricken shrub had produced a beautiful flower.

This is often true, as well, of people who've experienced great sorrow and loss. They know the Savior's love and comfort in ways that only those who suffer can know. And by God's grace, they share that love and comfort with others.

As Ugo Bassi said, “He who suffers most has most to give.”



Daylight-Saving Time begins March 8th.



The Family of Donna Klinger  
The Family of Margaret Runnells  
Mary Boehk—healing  
Diann Muck—healing from surgery  
Bernie Reuter—healing  
Lacy—has cancer and a tumor in her head  
Gloria Spencer—healing of broken arm  
Evelyn—strength  
John Boehk—healing  
D.J. Padden—great surgery outcome  
Carolyn Myer—broken nose, migraines,  
fibromyalgia  
Julie Rupley—heart problems  
Scott Jackson—congestive heart failure  
George Bridge—continuing recovery of  
cancer

Anthony Turowski—congestive heart  
failure  
Dawn Nichols—flesh eating bacteria on her  
arm  
Juanita Kunkle—dementia & physical  
problems  
Grayson Rupley—sensory disorder  
Allison Stickel—health & anxiety issues  
Jim—dementia  
Diane Jackson—blood clots  
Pat Waldfogel—broken wrist and knee  
problems  
The safety of the unborn  
Our Saviour Lutheran  
Missionaries

## **Paddling through Lent — and life**

Lent is a time for restoring balance to our lives. The Eskimos practice balance as they venture into freezing Arctic waters in little boats. If you've ever paddled a kayak, you know how easy they are to tip. Thankfully, kayaks are just as easy to turn back upright.

That isn't a bad image for Lent — or for life as a whole. Whatever spiritual disciplines we adopt, if we succumb to temptation, it's no biggie. One of the lessons of Lent is that, as long as we're traveling light, it takes only a quick twist of the paddle to right us. That paddle twist might take the form of a quick but heartfelt prayer: "Jesus, set me straight again!" Or it might mean some extra time set aside for quiet meditation with God. Don't get worried if your spiritual discipline fails now and then. Just let Jesus help you get upright once more, and keep paddling!—adapted from Carlos Wilton, in *Homiletics*

## **Spring fever**

Four high school students afflicted with spring fever skipped their morning classes. After lunch, the boys told their teacher they'd had a flat tire.

Much to the boys' relief, the teacher smiled and said, "Well, you missed a test, so take seats apart from one another and take out a piece of paper."

Still smiling, she waited for them to sit down. Then she said, "First question: Which tire was flat?"



## “Eyes on Jesus”

O come, let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. (*Gradual for Lent, based on Hebrews 12:2*)

When the characters in the Passion narrative look at Jesus, what do they see? In most cases, people misunderstood who He is and what He was doing. In some cases, by faith, people recognized Him aright. Our Lenten series this year, based on the Gospel according to St. Mark, will examine how the various people around Jesus viewed Him—and how we should view Him. We will “fix our eyes” on what Jesus has done to save us from our sins by His holy, precious blood and innocent sufferings and death, and celebrate what God sees on account of His work: our justification for His sake.

On Ash Wednesday, we see how, in spite of Jesus’ repeated predictions about His upcoming Passion, the disciples with “Misjudging Eyes” failed to recognize that soon He would not be with them, and they could not see the anonymous woman’s anointing of Jesus as preparation for His burial. But Jesus saw her actions as a beautiful deed that would be proclaimed throughout the world wherever the Gospel is heard.

At our midweek service after the First Sunday of Lent, we will look through Judas’ “Betraying Eyes” and learn why he did this awful deed. Yet the behind-the-scenes-reality is that Jesus was “handed over” (another way of translating the verb for “betray”) by God the Father Himself, so that Jesus could die for the sin of the world.

“Sleepy Eyes” is the theme for the second week of Lent. In Gethsemane, Jesus’ inner circle of Peter, James, and John cannot keep their eyes open to watch and pray with Jesus for even an hour, while Jesus comes to see that His Father’s will is that He drink the cup of God’s wrath when He comes to the “hour” of His suffering.

In the third week of Lent, we stare into the “Denying Eyes” of Peter and the other apostles. They could not see how they could ever fall away from Jesus, but after Jesus is betrayed by Judas, ten of them flee, and Peter—when he is spotted by a servant girl and sees that his own neck is on the line—sees fit to deny Jesus, which leads to his own eyes weeping in remorse. We sinners likewise deny our Lord in many ways, but Jesus denied Himself to take up the cross for our salvation.



(Continued)

“Murderous Eyes” is the theme of week 4 in Lent. The chief priests and scribes saw Jesus as an obstacle to be rid of by murdering Him through the Roman judicial system. Yet during the Passover festival, they would unwittingly bring about the Father’s sacrifice of the ultimate Passover Lamb.

In the fifth week of Lent, we look through the “Worldly Eyes” of Pilate, the Jewish leaders, and the Roman soldiers. Pilate can only view matters in a worldly, pragmatic way, wishing to placate the worldly Jewish leaders and crowd, so he consents to handing Jesus over for crucifixion. The soldiers see the opposite of a worldly king, but their ironic hailing of Him as “King of the Jews” proclaims who He really is. The world looks for power and glory; God’s way is suffering and the cross.

On Maundy Thursday, there is “More Than Meets the Eye” to the Lord’s Supper. We will look into the Old Testament background of the Last Supper and rejoice in the mystery that Jesus, in and with, bread and wine, gives us His body and blood in order to deliver to us the benefits of His Passion.

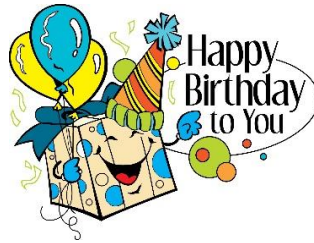
On Good Friday, we look through “God’s Eyes” to see what is happening during the Passion: the once-for-all atonement for the sin of the whole world and the justification of all sinners on Easter.

“Resting Eyes” is the theme for Holy Saturday. Various disciples rested their eyes upon the dead Jesus, cared for His body, and buried it. As Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Jesus rest their eyes upon the sealed tomb and contemplate further anointing of His body the next day, they cannot see that Jesus’ own eyes are merely resting temporarily, and Easter morning will bring a dramatic reversal.

Finally, Easter Sunday gazes upon “Angel Eyes.” The angel in the tomb knows the whole story of Jesus’ resurrection. When he sees the women, he proclaims the Gospel to them, shows them where Jesus’ body had formerly lain, and tells them that they can see Jesus themselves in Galilee. Likewise, the “angels” or messengers of the Church in the apostolic ministry tell God’s people where they can find Jesus and His salvation in the Means of Grace.

*Eyes on Jesus* will continuously focus our eyes on Jesus Christ and Him crucified, buried, and risen for our justification. This is a vision that will never disappoint, for by trusting in Jesus, He promises that we will gaze upon His beautiful face now by faith and forever in heaven!

*Pastor Al*



4 Beth Fowler  
5 Dennis (Slim) Shaffer

22 Justin Butts  
Tyler Mattison  
27 Ted (Larry) Minton



19 Scott & Tracie Popejoy



## GOD'S RICHEST BLESSINGS TO ALL

### Part of the deal?

Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland, spread Christianity in the fifth century, helping people abandon pagan rites. One day, he was baptizing new converts, including the chief of a fierce warrior tribe. Patrick leaned on his staff for support as he lowered each person into the rushing river. As he baptized the chief, he inadvertently pressed his staff firmly down on the chief's foot.

The chief uttered not a word of complaint, but as he stepped back onto the bank, people noticed he was limping. Patrick apologized, asking, "Why did you not cry out when I struck your foot?"

The chief replied, "I remember you telling us about the nails in the cross. I thought pain was part of my baptism." —*Homiletics*



## March 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> First Sunday in Lent 9:00 AM Bible Study 9:00 AM Kingdom Kids 10:15 AM Worship Service Church Council meets	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Midweek Lenten Service 7:00 PM	<b>5</b> Ladies' Guild meets at 7:00 PM	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> Second Sunday in Lent 9:00 AM Bible Study 9:00 AM Kingdom Kids 10:15 AM Holy Communion Coins for Compassion Daylight Saving Time begins	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Midweek Lenten Service 7:00 PM	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> MOPS 10:00AM - Noon
<b>15</b> Third Sunday in Lent 9:00 AM Bible Study 9:00 AM Kingdom Kids 10:15 AM Worship Service Newsletter deadline	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> Midweek Lenten Service 7:00 PM	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> Fourth Sunday in Lent 9:00 AM Bible Study 9:00 AM Kingdom Kids 10:15 AM Holy Communion Special One Offering	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Midweek Lenten Service 7:00 PM	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> MOPS 10:00AM - Noon
<b>29</b> Fifth Sunday in Lent 9:00 AM Bible Study 9:00 AM Kingdom Kids 10:15 AM Worship Service	<b>30</b> School Prayer Service 5:00 PM	<b>31</b>				