



# Blessings and Musings

## The Lutheran Church of Our Blessed Savior

### FEBRUARY, 2018

**Pastor:**  
Kal Rissman

**Church Council  
President:**  
Tina Gilman

**Vice President:**  
Dr. Herb Berner

**Secretary:**  
Louisa Hamilton

**Treasurer:**  
Nancy Sowers

**Other Members:**  
Dondra Bennett  
Bill Feldheiser  
Kathie Loser  
Eddie Slaven  
Dick Zarse  
Kim Zarse

**Organist:**  
Marilyn Pierce

**Church Secretary:**  
Marilyn Pierce  
9 AM - Noon  
Mon. Wed. Thurs.  
and Fri.  
Tues. 1:00 pm

**Office Phone:**  
765-7243671

**Email Address:**  
www.ourblessedsavior.com

**Sunday School:**  
9:30 A.M.

**Worship:**  
10:30 A.M.

**Printing:**  
Compliments of  
Broadway Press  
The Zarse Family

#### From the Pastor:

I usually call my sister, Karen in Minnesota every Saturday to find out how the family is doing up there and what has been going on. Invariably, I get a church report from her, because she is involved with three different Lutheran churches in some way. She is a member of one, goes to Bible class at another and plays music for the children at the third church. Then I give her a report as to how the Lutheran churches are doing down here in Indiana.

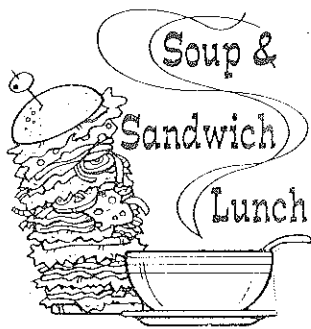
Karen said that they had 7 funerals this month at the church she belongs to and 3 of them were on one weekend. "That should keep Pastor Eversole off the streets for a while" I told her and she agreed. "There seems to be a pattern that we are having a lot more funerals than we are baptisms among the Lutherans," I added. She also agreed to that.

This is a distressing pattern. You don't have to be a genius to figure out that if you keep losing more members than you are taking in, it won't be too long before you no longer exist as a congregation. Even in the "new math" if you keep subtracting more than you are adding, that can't work out forever. Furthermore, it seems rather selfish to just hope that there can still be a congregation left to bury me and let it go after that.

Of course, baptizing infants is not the only way that a congregation can get new members. There are millions of people in our country that have no church affiliation whatsoever and some of them could join. The glitch in this process is that someone would have to tell these folks how their own faith and worship is important and meaningful to them and then invite the people to "come and see" what is going on in their congregation. Ah, therein lies the rub! These are Lutherans and Lutherans are not very inclined to share that kind of information.

We have never been known as a people who are gushy about the Gospel. We may wax rhapsodic about the pork tenderloins at the new restaurant in town. We may be giddy that the local football team has won a championship. We may have 43 pictures of our granddaughter taking her first steps and insist on everyone seeing them. We might insist that our friends see the latest Star Wars movie. But we are not likely to say anything about the hope that is in us in Jesus Christ. That somehow seems too personal, even though we will gladly show folks medical pictures of our intestines and other private things.

Earlier today I read the story about how Jesus healed a man of his leprosy and I saw a Lutheran connection. Jesus healed him, told him to go show the priests that he was healed and then he was free. Jesus told the man to not say anything about who healed him or how it was done. Jesus didn't want to just become the next sideshow miracle worker and be hindered from carrying out the rest of his ministry. Even though the leper was told to say nothing about Jesus he couldn't contain himself and went and blabbed it about to anyone who would listen. Oh, if only that leper had been a Lutheran! Jesus secret would have been safe with him!



## YOUTH & EDUCATION

### 'SOUPER BOWL OF CARING' -Sunday, February 4th

To celebrate another Souper Bowl year, we invite members of our congregation to share their talents, whether they be with song, poetry, skit, or dance in a program during the worship service. We will share our talents to bring attention to the fact that we have people in our community who are food challenged.

Let's celebrate our individual abundance by donating canned food goods or money that will then be passed on to our Pete's Pantry, which is housed downstairs, beneath our beautiful sanctuary.

A delicious Soup & Sandwich Lunch pitch-in will be served downstairs after the service.

Contact Kim Zarse with any questions. Thank you for sharing your time & talents, and spread the word by bringing your family and friends!!

**KIM ZARSE,  
DEACON OF EDUCATION**



## HEAVEN'S WEARHOUSE



The hours that Heaven's Wearhouse will be open are changing. We will have the open hours on **Monday from 4:00pm - 6:00pm.** On **Tuesday open hours will be 9:00am - 11:45am.** This will be all year round. Many of our volunteers work at Pete's Pantry too and this will make it easier on them. We appreciate all of your efforts for donated clothes and household items to the Wearhouse. All of the gloves, scarf's, and hats that the Adult Sunday School donated to the Wearhouse have all gone. There is a large need in Alexandria. All the volunteers would like to thank you for your concern about people.

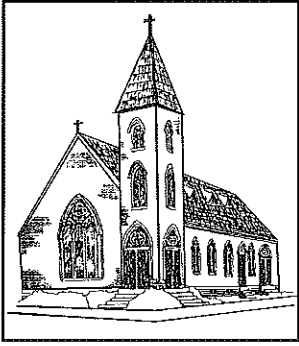


We five little Lutheran Church Mice have been too cold in January to do much around the church. We have been trying to stay warm and stay healthy. We are looking forward to February 4th when the Souper Bowl Luncheon will be held and we will get great crumbs. With all the good cooks that we have in the church, it is always a fun time and great eating. See you the 4th of February.

**SQUEEKY,  
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH MOUSE**

# February 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>4</b> 9:30am S.S./B.C. 10:30am Worship 11:30am Luncheon	<b>5</b> 9:00am Office 9:30am Pantry 11:30am Bible 4:00pm Wearhouse	<b>6</b> 9:00am Wearhouse 1:00pm Office	<b>7</b> 9:00am Office 9:30am Pantry	<b>8</b> 9:00am Office	<b>9</b> 9:00am Office 9:30 am Pantry	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b> 9:30am S.S./B.C. 10:30am Worship	<b>12</b> 9am Office 9:30am Pantry 11:30am Bible 4:00pm Wearhouse	<b>13</b> 9:00am Wearhouse 1:00pm Office	<b>14</b> 9:00am Office 9:30am Pantry 7 pm Ash Wednesday	<b>15</b> 9:00am Office	<b>16</b> 9:00am Office 9:30am Pantry	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b> 9:30am S.S./B.C. 10:30am Worship	<b>19</b> 9 am Office 9:30am Pantry 11:30am Bible 4:00pm Wearhouse	<b>20</b> 9:00am Wearhouse 1:00pm Office	<b>21</b> 9:00am Office 9:30am Pantry 6 pm Church Council	<b>22</b> 9:00am Office	<b>23</b> 9:00am Office 9:30am Pantry	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b> 9:30am S.S./B.C. 10:30am Worship	<b>26</b> 9 am Office 9:30am Pantry 11:30am Bible 4:00 pm Wearhouse	<b>27</b> 9:00am Wearhouse 1:00pm Office	<b>28</b> 9:00am Office 9:30am Pantry			



**Lutheran Church  
of Our Blessed Savior**  
309 West Washington  
PO Box 206  
Alexandria, IN 46001

**Church Office**  
765-724-3671  
**Pastor Kal Rissman**  
**Home: 765-754-7381**  
**Work: 765-747-3508**



"There was a tunnel and a bright white light and a souvenir shop! I brought back T-shirts for the kids!"

## February Participants



### ORGANIST

4 Marilyn Pierce  
11 Marilyn Pierce  
14 Marilyn Pierce  
18 Marilyn Pierce  
25 Marilyn Pierce

### ASSISTING MINISTERS

4 Dick Zarse  
11 Emily Closser  
14 Andrea Barnett  
18 Eddie Slaven  
25 Peggy Cox

### GREETERS

4  
11 Becky Howard  
14  
18  
25

### COUNTERS

Becky Howard/Connie Knigga  
Emily Closser/Debbie Rissman

Linda Howerton/Susie Remington  
June Zirkle/Marilyn Pierce

### LECTORS

Children and Youth  
Dr. Herb Berner  
Janice Feldheiser  
Michael Slaven  
Linda Howerton

### SOUND EQUIPMENT

David Shears

### ALTAR GUILD

Tina Gilman Family

### DEACON

Steve Holcomb  
June Zirkle  
Donna Key-Kerr  
George Bennett  
Tina Gilman