



# Blessings and Musings

## The Lutheran Church of Our Blessed Savior

### MARCH, 2018

#### From the Pastor:

**Pastor:**  
Kal Rissman  
765-754-7381

**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  
765-215-6088  
9 AM - Noon  
Mon. Wed. Thurs.  
and Fri.  
Tues. 1:00 pm

**Office Phone:**  
765-724-3671

**Email Address:**  
[www.pastorkal.com](http://www.pastorkal.com)  
[2015@gmail.com](mailto:2015@gmail.com)

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

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

**Printing:**  
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Broadway Press  
The Zarse Family

Have you ever met anybody who has not experienced some tragedy because of addiction? Have you ever run into one person that says that they don't have anybody in their extended family that has any kind of dependency problem? No, I haven't either. Everybody I have ever met has had some kind of run-in with the disease of addiction. It might be alcohol and other drugs. It might be some of the other addictions such as: gambling, overeating, overspending, smoking, sexual addiction or computer/game/I-phone addiction. The problem might be with you yourself, somebody in your family or a close friend, but it is everywhere.

If this is true (and it is) then it would make sense that we would want to learn more about our country's biggest health problem and we would want to see if there are some things that we can do to prevent and treat the addictive illness.

That is why our congregations are sponsoring a nine part series on chemical dependency. We will begin the series on Sunday, March 4, 2018 and will conclude on May 6, 2018. Every Sunday evening, excluding Easter Sunday we will have another presentation at 7:00 p.m. in the church basement of The Lutheran Church of Our Blessed Savior. This lecture series will be filmed with the live audience so that the entire series can be on our church website and can be viewed not only by Lutherans, but by anybody who has the Internet. There will be a question and answer period at the end of each lecture.

Since almost my entire career has been spent working with addictions of various kinds, this is a subject that I know well. I have wanted to share this information with the community and with the Lutheran Church for a long time. I believe that my diverse experiences as Spiritual Care Counselor, Addiction Counselor, Nicotine Dependency Counselor, Chaplain, Marriage and Family Therapist and parish pastor give me a unique perspective to this disease that folks will find helpful.

The lectures are based on information from my book, "Knowledge to Power: Understanding and Overcoming Addiction". This book is currently being completed by Outskirts Press and will be sold by the publishing house as well as other outlets such as Amazon and Barnes and Noble. Hopefully, the book will be out at some point during the presentations.

The full range of issues that addictions raise will be discussed during the presentations. We will explain how addiction is a disease, a spiritual disease and a feelings disease. We will look at how our culture does not believe we should ever have any pain, either physical or emotional and how that sets us up for using quick-fix solutions. We will look not only at those who are afflicted with the

illness, but also at those who are affected by the illness, such as: codependents and Adult Children of Dysfunction. The emotions that drive addiction such as: guilt, shame, grief, loss, anger and fear will be explained. There will be an Intervention Specialist guest speaker to explain what a structured intervention involves to get an addicted person into treatment, even when they really don't want to go.

A section that should interest pastors and lay people in the Christian church is the section on religion and recovery. There are ways that the church both helps and hinders recovery for addicts and we will learn what things to do and what to avoid. We will discuss not only what is helpful, but when help should be given to an addicted person.

Most importantly, we will see that the church is a place that can help sick people without judgment and treat addicts as if they are "sick" and not just "bad". We will see the important place that the church can have in recovery for addicts and their families and how grace, forgiveness and love can heal.

I hope that as many of you as possible can attend the lectures. I will be including real-life stories in the presentations and I believe it will be interesting. And as most of you know by now, I won't be talking over anyone's head. I am known to be "plain-spoken". And, of course, since we are Lutherans, there will be free food served! Spread the word.

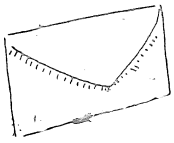
Please join the adult Sunday school class in donating to Wernle.



#### **Suggested donations:**

Gift cards (Meijer, Walmart or Kohl's) or cash  
"No Show" socks  
Boxers style underwear  
Sport's equipment

**There is a basket in the Narthex for your donations**



## LETTERS

We receive letters sometimes and we received one from Amanda Trent. Remember the girl who sat by Timothy Pierce by the sound table?

"Hi! I'm doing good. I like it a lot here. I miss everyone at church and Heaven's Wearhouse and I wanted to tell all of you hi from me".

**Amanda Trent**

PS Amanda has done drawings for the newsletter and in this newsletter I am including two drawings that she sent to me. Mine are colored but, the copies for the newsletter are in black and white.

Marilyn



We five little church mice have been busy this winter. We see all the people who come into Pete's Pantry for food. Do you realize that there are a lot of hungry people in Alexandria, Summitville, and Orestes? Have you ever thought about how it must feel for them to have to depend on the Pantry for

their food each month? It would be embarrassing for some people to have to come and ask for food. Just think if you had to ask -- how would it make you feel? That is why we treat people kindly.

We sometimes go to Heaven's Wearhouse and we find the same thing there. People are needing clothes and household items. Some come in without a coat on and they find one that fits them. When they do find a coat, they get a big smile on their face and their whole attitude changes. It is just like when we five little mice were there this past Tuesday. A man found a coat who walked in without one and you should have seen how happy and delighted he was at finally owning a coat.

I guess we all should think about what if we were on the other side -- how would we feel asking for our needs?

**SQUEEKY,  
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH MOUSE**

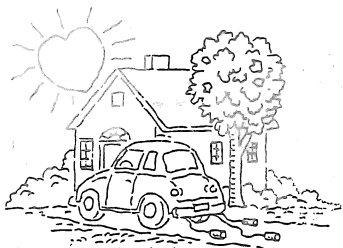


## NEW EMAIL

Pastor Kal has a new email address. The new address is as follows:

[www.pastorkal2015@gmail.com](mailto:www.pastorkal2015@gmail.com)

Phone: 765-754-7381

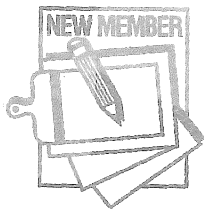


New Address for

Reanelle Heritage has a new address.

Reanelle Heritage  
Westminister Village  
5801 West Bethel Apt. 142  
Muncie, In. 47304

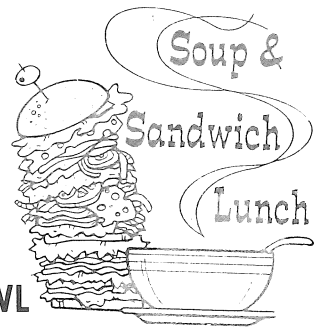
If you would like to visit her or send her a card use the Muncie address. If you would like her new phone number, you may call the church office and Marilyn will give it to you.



**NEW MEMBERS**

**Jeffrey and Gloria Schilling  
312 North Canal Street  
Alexandria, In. 46001**

They transferred from Trinity Lutheran Church, Rocky Mount, NC. We welcome them as new members. **WELCOME!**



**SOUPER BOWL**

Our 18th annual Souper Bowl of Caring was another big success! We collected many food items and \$282.00, which are donated to Pete's Pantry. Thank you Emily Closser, Dr. Herb Berner, Pastor Kal, Adrienne Salazzar, Audrey Salazzar, Myra Mezidk, and Stella Griffin for sharing your talents during our worship service. Also, thank you to everyone who cooked, prepared, and cleaned up after our over-the-top pitch-in dinner. It was a great success and fun for all!

**EASTER SUNDAY SCHOOL** - We will have our traditional Easter egg hunt with games, activities, and prizes for our kids. It's a great time to bring family and friends! 9:30 a.m. in the Bethel Room.

**KIM ZARSE,  
DEACON OF EDUCATION**

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**Come and go**

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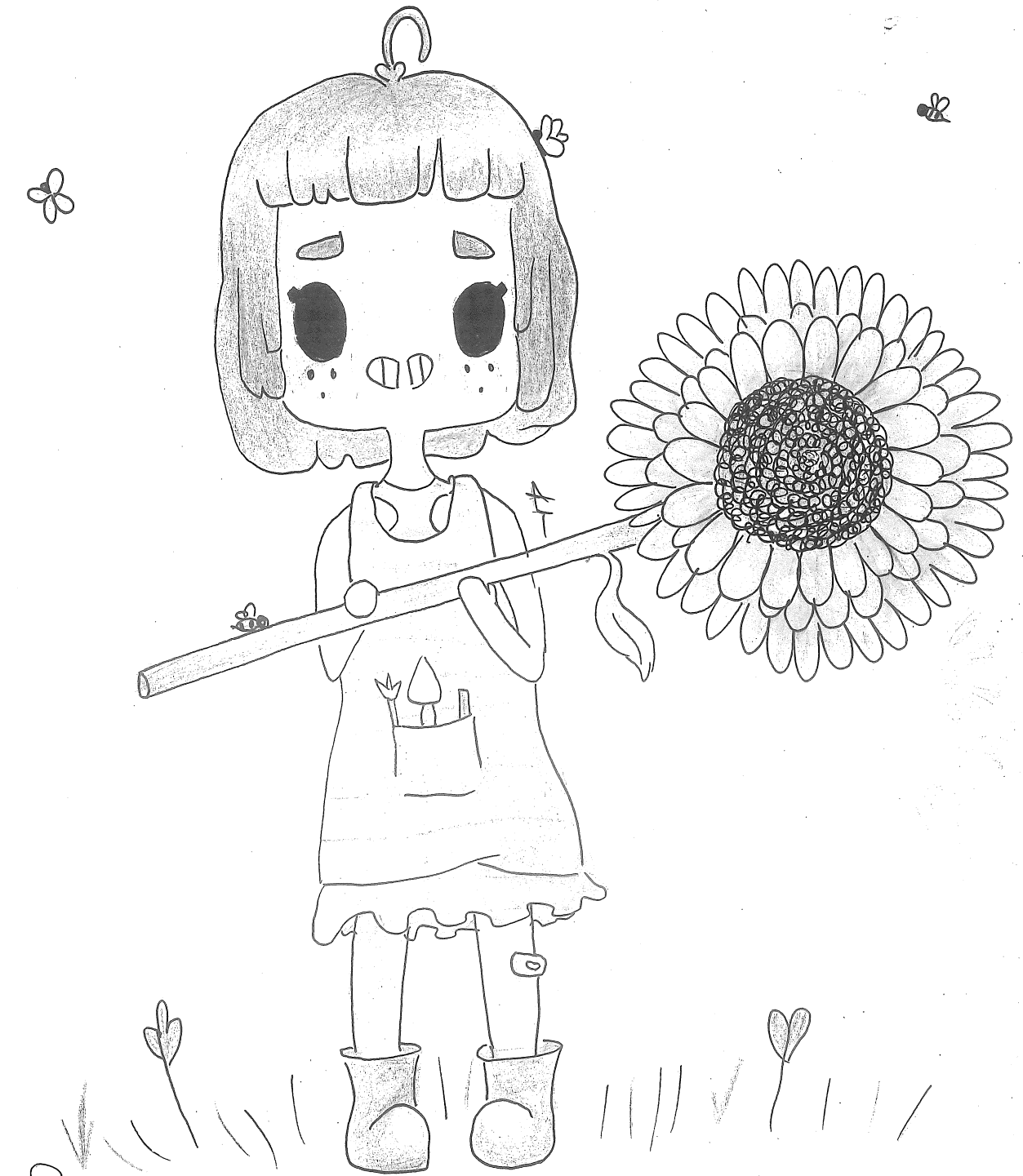
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Christianity is a "Come and go affair." We come up to the mountain, but we must go back down again. We come to worship, but we must go to serve.

-Zan W. Holmes

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Love is

Life

By  
Amanda

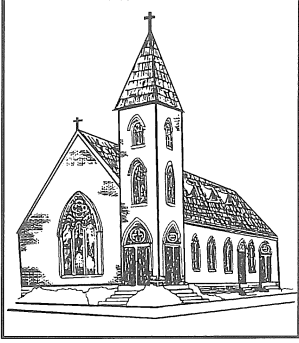


By  
AMANDA

August  
26  
2014

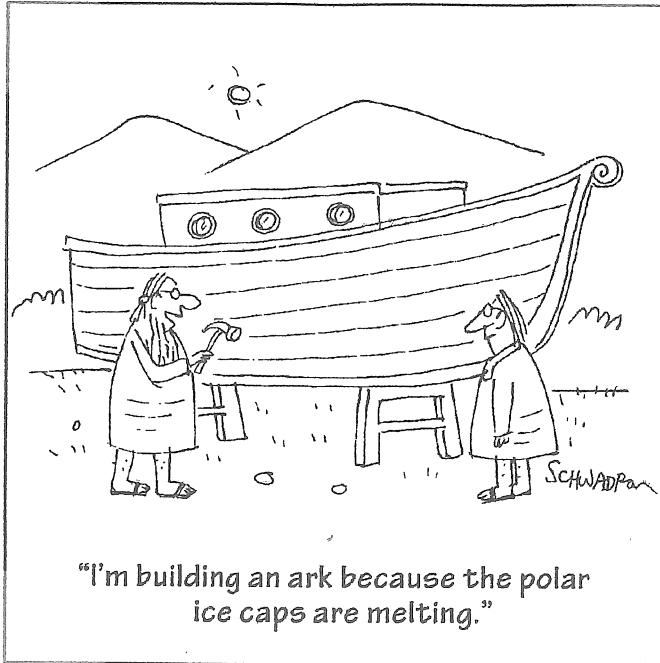
# MARCH 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 9:00am Office	2 9:00am Office 9:30am Pantry	3
4 9:30am S.S./B.C. 10:30am Worship	5 9:00am Office 9:30am Pantry 11:30am Bible 4:00pm Wearhouse	6 9:00am Wearhouse 1:00pm Office	7 9:00am Office 9:30am Pantry	8 9:00am Office	9 9:00am Office 9:30 am Pantry	10
11 9:30am S.S./B.C. 10:30am Worship	12 9am Office 9:30am Pantry 11:30am Bible 4:00pm Wearhouse	13 9:00am Wearhouse 1:00pm Office	14 9:00am Office 9:30am Pantry 7 pm Ash Wednesday	15 9:00am Office	16 9:00am Office 9:30am Pantry	17
18 9:30am S.S./B.C. 10:30am Worship	19 9 am Office 9:30am Pantry 11:30am Bible 4:00pm Wearhouse	20 9:00am Wearhouse 1:00pm Office	21 9:00am Office 9:30am Pantry 6 pm Church Council	22 9:00am Office	23 9:00am Office 9:30am Pantry	24
25 9:30am S.S./B.C. 10:30am Worship	26 9 am Office 9:30am Pantry 11:30am Bible 4:00 pm Wearhouse	27 9:00am Wearhouse 1:00pm Office	28 9:00am Office 9:30am Pantry	29 Maundy Thursday	30 6:00pm Good Friday Community Service	31



**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



"I'm building an ark because the polar ice caps are melting."

## March Participants



### ORGANIST

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

### ASSISTING MINISTERS

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

### GREETERS

4  
11 Becky Howard  
18  
25

### COUNTERS

David Shears/Carol Shears  
Becky Howard/Connie Knigga  
Emily Closser/Debbie Rissman  
Linda Howerton/Susie Remington

### LECTORS

Dr. Herb Berner  
Shon Littlefield  
Ron Haas  
Kathie Loser

### SOUND EQUIPMENT

David Shears

### ALTAR GUILD

Beverly Stevens  
Paulette Haynes

### DEACON

George Bennett  
June Zirkle  
Donna Key-Kerr  
Tina Gilman

**Maundy Thursday, March 29, 2018 = Service at St. John in Elwood  
Soup Supper at 6:30p.m. with the service at 7:00p.m.**

**Community Good Friday Service, March 30, 2018 7:00 p.m. here at Our Blessed Savior**