



Blessings and Musings

The Lutheran Church of Our Blessed Savior

MARCH, 2021

From the Pastor:

Pastor:
Kal Rissman
765-754-7381

**Church Council
President:**
George Bennett

Vice President:
David Shears

Secretary:
Carol Shears

Treasurer:
Nancy Sowers

Other Members:
Andrea Barnett
Becca Key-Kerr
Kathie Loser
Marilyn Pierce
Eddie Slaven
Dick Zarse

Organist:
Marilyn Pierce

Church Secretary:
Marilyn Pierce
765-215-6088
9 AM - Noon
Mon. Wed. Thurs.
and Fri.
Tues. 1:00 pm

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Sunday School:
9:30 A.M.

Worship:
10:30 A.M.

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The Zarse Family

At the end of every month for the past 15 years I have gone to the mailbox looking for a letter that says "Wells Fargo" on it. This is the company that holds the mortgage on our home and property and I always wanted to see what progress we were making in whittling this mortgage down to nothing. The excitement was building as we were getting close to being done and then last month we made the last payment. The Ponderosa is now all ours! I used to give thanks to God and Wells Fargo that I could live on such a peaceful and beautiful place and now I will only have to give thanks to God!

Wells Fargo said that they would send word to the county that the lien was gone on our property and now we have been released from debt. That phrase, released from debt, is one that is used consistently in the Scriptures to denote forgiveness. For example, in the parable of the unjust steward, one servant is forgiven a huge debt by the master. It is an impossible amount that this servant could have worked on for centuries and still could not have paid off. The debt is simply written off and he is free. But then one of his fellow servants owed him a few dollars and he had him thrown in debtor's prison until he paid him. When the master found out about this, he was not very happy and that servant was severely punished. Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors!

As we enter the season of Lent, we take time out to see where we are in relationship to the Lord and to other people. Lent is a time of spiritual stock-taking and introspection. It is a time of repentance that can include fasting and praying. Some Christians give up something for Lent as a way of remembering the sacrifice that the Lord made for us on the cross. For example, I asked my sister what she was giving up for Lent this year and she said it was cookies, cake and soda pop. I jokingly said that I was giving up liver and lima beans, which isn't much of a sacrifice! Other Christians add something to their life such as: evening devotions with the family or volunteer work or extra gifts to the mission jar.

But mostly, Lent is a season of repentance and forgiveness. The Old Testament lesson from Jeremiah carries the message to the children of Israel that their time of exile in Babylon is over and the Lord has forgiven them. It is a great message of grace where the Lord tells them, "I will forgive their iniquity and remember their sin no more". It is gone and He will never bring it up again.

When we focus on what the Lord has forgiven us, we are then ready to let go of some of the resentments and hurts that others have done. We release them from debt. We too say, "I will forgive their iniquity and remember their sin no more."



DEATH
CONNIE LEE COX
Died: February 9, 2021
Buried: February 12, 2021



SOUPER BOWL OF CARING TACKLE HUNGER

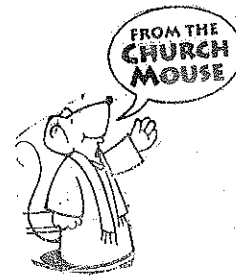
For 2021 our Souper Bowl of Caring event, we will be collecting non-perishable food items and monetary donations for Pete's Pantry from now until March 21st. Look for donation baskets in the narthex.

On March 21st we will have containers of homemade soup for take home after the worship service as we cannot yet gather in the basement to dine-in as in years past. We have applied for a Thrivent Action Team to promote the event and benefit the needs of Pete's Pantry. Also we want to give a special shout out to all the volunteers working hard to tackle hunger in the Alexandria Community. Go Team.

The final form of love

Nothing that is worth doing can be achieved in our lifetime; therefore we must be saved by hope. Nothing which is true or beautiful or good makes complete sense in any immediate context of history; therefore we must be saved by faith. Nothing we do, however virtuous, can be accomplished alone; therefore we are saved by love. No virtuous act is quite as virtuous from the standpoint of our friend or foe as it is from our standpoint. Therefore we must be saved by the final form of love, which is forgiveness.

—John Patrick Diggins



We five little Lutheran Church mice have had enough SNOW and COLD weather. We want Winter over and done with. We want SUN and nice HOT weather. We want to sit on the porch swing and get all the sun and warm air that we are able to soak into our little bodies. We are tired of having to watch how we walk on the snow and ice so that we don't fall and break our little bones. Our bones are small and we can get hurt easily. Our advice to all you members is to be very careful and try not to fall. Summer is coming, just seems far away right now.

Squeaky,

The Lutheran Church Mouse

•When Jesus prayed, he was conscious that, in his prayer, he met the Presence, and this consciousness was far more important and significant than the answering of his prayer.

—Howard Thurman

•I am convinced that true religion or holiness cannot be without cheerfulness, so steady cheerfulness, on the other hand, cannot be without holiness or true religion.

—John Wesley

•Grabbing the Rock of Ages as you are about to be swept over the falls is a poor substitute for building your life on him.

—Philip Collier

•I suspect the rest of my life will in some way be a "thank you" for the special care given me by God and his people.

—Katherine Koob,
former hostage in Iran

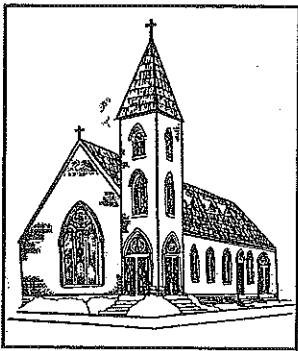
•It is not the business of the church to adapt Christ to people, but people to Christ.

—Dorothy Sayers

•What the world needs is a good loud-speaker for the still, small voice.

MARCH 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 9:00 am Office	2 9:00am Office	3 9:00am Office	4 9:00am Office 9:30-11:30am Tailgate in parking lot	5 9:00am Office	6
7 9:30am S.S. & B.C. 10:30am Worship Lector S. Stephanie-	8 9:00am Office	9 9:00am Office	10 9:00am Office	11 9:00am Office 9:30-11:30am Tailgate in parking lot	12 9:00am Office	13
14 9:30am S.S. & B.C. 10:30am Worship Lector P. Cox	15 9:00am Office	16 9:00am Office	17 9:00am Office 6:00pm Church Council	18 9:00am Office 9:30-11:30am Tailgate in parking lot	19 9:00am Office	20
21 9:30am S.S. & B.C. 10:30am Worship Lector E. Closser	22 9 am Office	23 9:00am Office	24 9:00am Office	25 9:00am Office 9:30-11:30am Tailgate in parking lot	26 9:00am Office	27
28 9:30am S.S. & B.C. 10:30am Worship Lector Dr. H. Berner	29	30	31			



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

Church Office
765-724-3671
Pastor Kal Rissman
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March Participants



ORGANIST

7 Marilyn Pierce
14 Marilyn Pierce
21 Marilyn Pierce
28 Marilyn Pierce

LECTORS

Audrey/Stephanie Salazar
Peggy Cox
Emily Closser
Dr. Herb Berner

ALTAR GUILD

No Altar Guild this month

SOUND EQUIPMENT

David Shears