

WHEN TO CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE

REV. WILLIAM MAINS
CHURCH OFFICE: 762-6626

- When there is a birth in the family.
- When there is a death in the family.
- When someone close to you is ill or in the hospital, or in need of spiritual help.
- When someone in the family is going off to college or joining the armed forces.
- When there are marital problems and before you call the lawyer.
- When someone in the congregation has done something to anger you.
- When you have a suggestion for the congregation.
- When you have a question about the Bible, Christianity or Lutheranism.
- When something in your life is troubling you.
- When alcohol or drug dependency is a problem for you or someone close.
- When you move to a different area.
- When you just plain want someone to talk with.
- When you want to be specifically remembered in prayer.

The pastor of a congregation does more than lead worship and preach on Sunday morning. A pastor is concerned with the lives of people and, unfortunately, the pastor is often times the last to know about major events in people's lives because people forget to tell them. Whenever you need the pastor's help or care...don't hesitate to call, stop by or leave a note.

Pastor Bill is not in the office on Fridays. The office is open from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH STAFF

William Mains, Pastor	262-681-3368
Becca Mains, Youth Director	
Thomas Reifenberg, Organist	303-3515
Tammy Woodbury, Saturday Keyboard	483-2815
Jana Larson, Choir Director	
Sharon Piastowski, Secretary/Education Coordinator	764-4066
John Jones, Custodian	

RECENTLY HOSPITALIZED

David Bickler
Elbert Hubbard
Carolyn Marks
Bob Tice

Pat Brzek
Karen Peterson
Jan Tillman
Sandy Anderson



Our
Thoughts &
Prayers
are with...

Mike Zingsheim
Marion Hansen
Pam Cooper
Wanda Sjoblom
Fern Christianson
Barb Meyer
Bill Tillman
Tom Immel

Evelyn Lokken
Roger Malcolm
Dagne Domino
Margo Kullmann
Gina Lorentzen
Pastor Jim Niederloh
Ramona Stefanski
Don Barbian, Jr.

TRINITY EVENTS IN MARCH

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Saturday: 5:00 PM, Sunday: 8:00 & 10:30 AM

Contemporary Service the 1st and 3rd Sundays at 10:30

4th Sunday at 8:00

Education Hour 9:15

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| March 1, 15, & 29 | 9:00 Quilting |
| March 2 | 6:00 Property Ministry Team |
| March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 | 10:30 Adult Bible Study |
| March 3 | 1:30 Dorcas Circle at Eunice Draeger's
6:30 Caring Ministry Team
6:30 Congregational Life at Gail English's
7:00 Worship/Music Ministry Team
7:00 Education Team at Sharon Piastowski's |
| March 4-6 | Youth Quake/Zone |
| March 7 | 6:30-8:00 Catechism Class
6:30 Congregational Life Team at Karen's
7:00 Finance Ministry Team |
| March 8 | 7:00 Sarah Circle at Grace Proft's |
| March 9 | ASH WEDNESDAY
1:30 Lenten Bible Study Begins
5:30 Simple Supper Served
6:00 Carillon Ringers
7:00 ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE |
| March 10 | 7:00 Council Meeting |
| March 11 | 6:30-8:00 Sisiters In Spirit Bible Study |
| March 12 | 1:00-3:00 Saturday Stitchers |
| March 13 | 1:00-3:00 Elementary Bowling |
| March 14 | 6:30 Catechism Service/Fellowship
NEWSLETTER DEADLINE |
| March 16, 23, 30 | 5:30 Simple Supper Served
7:00 Lenten Service |
| March 20 | Blood Pressure Checks between Services
1:00-3:00 Middle/High School Bowling |
| March 21 | 6:30-8:00 Catechism Class |
| March 28 | 6:30 Catechism Leader Huddle |

Dear Friends in Christ,

Even though Lent is late this year, it will be Ash Wednesday before we know. That's when we begin our 40-day journey toward the cross. As part of that journey, we will be encouraging people to practice one of the disciplines of Lent: fasting, praying, giving, studying Scripture, and worship.

While TLC makes available several Bible studies, opportunities for giving and praying and worship, we haven't done much in the area of fasting. I'd like to take a moment to explain the ancient Christian discipline of fasting.

The main goal of fasting is to help us be aware of just how much we depend on God. If we're serious about this discipline, we will obviously experience real hunger and a sense of physical weakness and tiredness. The purpose of our fasting is let these physical experiences lead us in recognizing our inward sinfulness and lead us toward a renewed sense of repentance.

Fasting isn't just a matter of diet. It is also a matter of the spirit. Just giving up a meal or a particular food might ultimately lead us to a deeper kind of fasting, a fasting of the spirit, of the will, of the mind, of the attitude.

I grew up and still live in a household that emphasizes fasting, although not just the food kind of fasting. We still ask one another before Ash Wednesday, "What are you giving up for Lent?" Each of us is expected to be prepared to give up something in recognition of what Christ gave up for us. Sometimes the answers are humorous, and sometimes they are childish (the kids try to give up school for Lent, but usually settle for candy). Sometimes they have unintended consequences (my own quest for better health started last Lent when I gave up my one-can-a-day Coke habit). Regardless, we use these as opportunities to better understand our Lord's love and sacrifice for us.

This Lent, I'd like to encourage you to try fasting, either a fasting of food or a fasting of the spirit. Pray while you fast for God's Holy Spirit to bless your gift of fasting for your benefit and

for the benefit of others. Worship regularly the one who laid down his life for us. Give of your resources so others can have the necessities of life. Spend time in Scripture learning of God's deep and abiding love.

DON'T KNOW WHAT TO GIVE UP FOR LENT?

Give up watching television one evening a week. Visit some lonely or sick person instead.

Give up buying bottled water. Use the money to buy a reusable water bottle you fill at home.

Give up a bad habit that might not be causing you grief yet but will. Use your time or money to work toward better health in the long run.

Give up looking at other people's worst points. Concentrate on their strong points and positive attributes.

Give up speaking unkindly. Let your speech be generous and understanding.

Give up your worries. Trust God with your problems and frustrations.

Give up hatred or dislike of anyone. Learn to love instead.

Give up the fear which prevents Christian witness. Seek courage to speak about your faith to others.

Give up spending so much time with newspapers and magazines. Use some of that time to study your Bible.

Give up grumbling. Learn to give thanks in everything.

Give up ten to fifteen minutes each day. Use that time in prayer.

Give up buying anything but essentials for yourself. Give that money to God's work or someone in need.

Give up judging by appearance and by the standards of the world. Learn to give up yourself to God.

Give up trying to be the Chairman of the Board of the Universe. That position is already taken by someone capable of handling it.

Yours in Christ's Service,
Pastor Bill

LENT BEGINS WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9

In case you haven't noticed, Lent begins quite late this year. Ash Wednesday is March 9. Worship with ashes and Holy Communion will be at 7 PM. The *Holden Evening Prayer* will be the order of worship for all our mid-week services.

The theme for this year's Lenten mid-week worship is *THUS IT IS WRITTEN*. We will be following the narratives of the Gospel writers Mark, Luke and John as they describe Jesus' experiences in the Garden of Gethsemane and on Calvary.

GIVE A GOAT

Did you know?

- Animals provide families living in poverty with food, funds and fertilizer—all for a better future?

- that goats change lives?

- that in extreme climates where other animals cannot survive, goats provide families with fresh milk to drink and fertilizer for the land?

- that as goats multiply, families share offspring with a neighbor in need -- helping lift entire communities out of hunger and poverty?

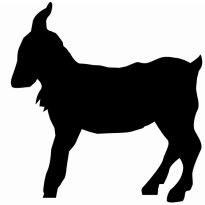
Did you know?

- that it only costs \$60 to give a 3rd world family a goat?

- that it only takes \$5 a month to “Give A Goat” in a year?

Would you believe that “GIVE A GOAT” is our new World Hunger program? We're using an old water jar to collect the donations. Look for the new logo on an old water jar, and make plans to “GIVE A GOAT” this year.

God's work. Our hands.



**GIVE A
GOAT**

LENTEN SIMPLE SUPPERS

Each Wednesday evening will begin with a Simple Supper serving from 5:30 pm until 6:30 pm. Several groups have volunteered to be responsible for one of the Simple Suppers, but we still need to fill two more weeks. Here's the schedule we have so far:

March 9, Ash Wednesday, Congregational Life Ministry Team - Chili

March 16, Outreach Ministry Team - Taco Bar

March 23, Youth Ministry Team - Tomato Soup and Grilled Cheese Sandwiches

March 30, Christian Education Ministry Team - Soups and Sandwiches

April 6 - *needs a volunteer group*

April 13 - *needs a volunteer group*

Please check with your Ministry Team, choir, study group, extended family and even your co-workers to see if you can be part of the Simple Supper effort.

The guidelines for the Simple Supper are also simple: you are welcome to take a free will offering at each meal. The money collected can either go toward covering the costs for the meal with the group providing the meal to cover the difference between the money collected and the actual cost, OR the group can simply sponsor the meal, take a free-will offering and donate it toward a project or ministry of their choice. Some possible recipients: Project Uplift, Human Concerns, GIVE A GOAT World Hunger program, youth ministry, the scholarship fund, Interfaith, and more.

Please contact the church office to volunteer a Wednesday evening meal.

TLC MEATBALL SUPPER-2011

By Lori Mijokovic

In early April I was told that the women who traditionally ran the Meatball Supper were ready to step down after many years of loyal service. I agreed to take over this enormous task.

Debbie Moss, Sue Zylka, Sandi Rogosienski and I formed a committee. Initially I was excited to do this but as time moved along I had a major panic attack! I was wondering “how can I do this, am I crazy”? The mistake with that sentence is I was thinking in terms of I instead of we. Deb, Sue and Sandi quickly helped me to realize that we had nothing to fear because we had each other and a whole congregation of people who give, and give generously, of their time and talents. Everything went well and it was a huge success! We served around 500 people (I don't have exact count yet) and in addition we raised about \$600.00 at the bake sale.

I really enjoyed working with each and every one of you and am overwhelmed with the level of generosity in this church. I would like to send out a special thank to Deb Moss who managed food prep and kept the kitchen humming along, to Sue Zylka who managed to keep the bake sale, carry out room and dessert tables at their delicious best and to Sandi Rogosienski for selfless hours spent shopping and organizing in addition to greeting our guests so graciously in her role as hostess. Thanks also goes out to those who handled the publicity, sold the tickets, worked the bake sale & carryout room, cut the desserts, called for donations, cleaned, shopped, rolled, cooked, baked, served, set up and took down at the Meatball Supper. It truly takes a team of people to accomplish what we did and our team is the best!!!

I am PROUD to call myself a member of Trinity Lutheran Church!

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Personal Energy.

The Church Council meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month. I must admit by most Thursday evenings I'm looking forward to the weekend and some time off. Sometimes it has been a hard week and I think all I have to do is get through one more day at work and then it's time to relax. So, once in awhile, I'm not exactly excited about going to a meeting on a Thursday night.

Then something interesting happens; I get to Church, walk in the room and start to talk with the other people on the Council. We greet each other, we ask how you are you doing, we share a story about the day or a joke, and we laugh. I start to perk up. When everyone is settled the meeting starts, Pastor shares some thoughts and leads us in prayer. That is a nice reminder of where we are and why we are there. I'm starting to get into "it".

Then we look over the minutes from the last meeting, discuss any new business or old business and we start to hear reports from the Ministry Teams. I'm starting to pick up some energy at this point, maybe this is what it feels like to drink that first cup of coffee in the morning (I don't drink coffee). Don't get me wrong, nobody jumps up and down to music or has flashing lights and fireworks when they give their reports. It is just a straight forward update of what their Ministry Team has been working on for the last month.

That is the cool part, hearing those simple reports gets me recharged. Why? I get to hear about ALL THE AMAZING THINGS our Teams and Congregation are doing in God's name! Like the social activities for our congregation members, the education programs for our kids and adults, the outreach to the community in so many ways like serving food to the homeless, building houses, supporting food pantries, and our worship

services with great music and everything else. WOW, how can you not be energized by that?!

So, maybe at this point you are thinking “ok Steve, we’ve heard you talk about this topic before” yes I have talked in the past about the things TLC does. Could we do more? *Sure*. Do we want to do more? *Yes*. Would it be nice to have more members involved? *Yup*. Could we use more money to get those things done? *Absolutely*.

So what is my point? I wanted to share a personal observation. I usually walk out of the Council meetings a little different then when I walk in; my head is a little higher, my back a little straighter, definitely with more energy and almost always in a better mood. We do a lot of good stuff in this Church, I get something out of that, I hope you do too.

Peace Be With You.

Steve

BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC CHANGE

Trinity’s Blood Pressure Clinic has moved to a new day! We’ve been doing them on the 2nd Sunday of the month for several years. To help with scheduling issues, the Blood Pressure Clinics have been changed to the **3rd Sunday of the month**. They will continue to be held in the church library between services.

This month’s Blood Pressure Clinic is Sunday, March 20.

News from your friends on the
CONGREGATIONAL LIFE MINISTRY TEAM

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, March 9, 5:30 p.m. - Ash Wednesday Simple Supper

Saturday, May 14, 6:30 p.m. - Diner's Club at Bangkok House

Ash Wednesday Simple Supper

This is our second year offering a simple supper on Ash Wednesday. Join us for a great chili dinner in the church hall on March 9th from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. before the Ash Wednesday service. This gives you a nice opportunity to stay out of the kitchen and enjoy a tasty dinner with your family before attending church. We'll offer two types of chili: vegetarian & meat, as well as noodles, cornbread, and dessert. If you think you'd like to come, please sign up on the sheet in back of church so we know how much food to prepare.

Diner's Club

The Trinity Diner's Club isn't really a club. But it is for Diners. In other words, people who like to eat! We invite you to join us as we get together with other people from church and visit a nearby restaurant about four times per year. Our next outing is scheduled for Saturday, May 14, at 6:30 p.m. We'll be going to the Bangkok House restaurant, which is in the Whitnall Square Shopping Center on Layton Ave. We'll be putting a sign-up sheet out in the narthex so that we can let the restaurant know how many people to expect. So mark your calendar & join the fun!

Be sure to check out Trinity's website at www.flcsm.org.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Operating Budget Summation

	Month of January 2011	Year-to-date
Income	\$ 32,823.80	\$ 32,823.80
Expenses	\$ 25,625.81	\$ 25,625.81
Net Income	\$ 7,197.99	\$ 7,197.99

**Our 'real' net income for the month was \$ 1,697.99
We had \$ 5,500.00 in gifts from members who prepaid for the
whole year.**

**Your continued financial support of our ministries and
operations is appreciated.**

Project Uplift - Reserve Fund Account

29,375.34	Month's beginning balance
611.00	Contributions for month
29,986.34	Ending balance



SISTERS IN SPIRIT

We are forming a new women's circle at Trinity Lutheran Church. It will be called Sisters In Spirit and is open to all Christian women. We will be meeting every 2nd Friday of the month from 6:30-8:00. The first meeting will be on March 11th in room 109. It will be a bible study, free discussion period and sharing of a dessert and coffee. Please join us and become involved in this new adventure. If you have any questions call Lori @ 414-423-8329 or email lamsews@wi.rr.com. I look forward to seeing you!

ADULT BIBLE STUDIES

TLC has three adult Bible studies going at the moment. Here's a summary of what we have going on:

- Thursday morning Bible Study - meets at 10:30 AM in Rooms 112-113 for an hour of fellowship and study. This class has focused on the upcoming Gospel lesson for the following Sunday. We average about 12-14 adults at each class.

March and April's scheduled lessons include:

Thurs., 03/03 - Matthew 17:1-9

Thurs., 03/10 - Matthew 4:1-11

Thurs., 03/17 - John 3:1-17

Thurs., 03/24 - John 4:5-42

Thurs., 03/31 - John 9:1-41

Thurs., 04/07 - John 11:1-45

Thurs., 04/11 - Matthew 27:11-54

Thurs., 04/18 - OFF - Holy Week

Thurs., 04/25 - OFF - Pastor unavailable

- Sunday Adult Forum - meets between worship services on Sunday morning, starting at 9:15 in Rooms 109-110. This Bible study has been very different, in that we have been looking at a wide variety of scripture passages, many of them suggested by the students themselves. The theme has been to look at biblical sayings or events that are difficult to understand. Each week focuses on a different portion of the Bible, so there is no need to be in class every week to understand what's going on. We don't even schedule the lessons more than a week in advance. If you'd like the class to cover a specific Bible passage, please email it to Pastor Bill at pastortlcm@sbcglobal.net.

Dorcas Circle will meet Thursday, March 3, at 1:30 at the home of Eunice Draeger.

Sarah Circle will meet Tuesday, March 8, at 7:00 at the home of Grace Proft.

NEW LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

We are also offering an hour-long Lenten Bible study on Wednesday afternoons at 1:30 PM, beginning Ash Wednesday and leading up to Holy Week.

Lent has traditionally been a time of spiritual self-searching and the disciplines of faith. In addition to his letter to the Romans, Paul's letter to the Galatians is probably the clearest proclamation of God's salvation by grace through faith in Jesus Christ. Spending an hour a week remembering the center of our faith would make a good Lenten discipline.

The schedule for this 6 week long Bible study will be:

Wed., 3/9 - Galatians chapter 1

Wed., 3/16 - Galatians chapter 2

Wed., 3/23 - Galatians chapter 3

Wed., 3/30 - Galatians chapter 4

Wed., 4/06 - Galatians chapter 5

Wed., 4/13 - Galatians chapter 6

We're inviting people to let Pastor Bill know if you hope to attend by signing up. The deadline will be Sunday, March 6.



LENTEN
Bible Study



YOUTH NEWS

Happy March!

What a cold and snowy winter we are having! The freezing temperatures have made me realize just how lucky I am. I am very blessed to have a warm home over my head and good food to eat. Unfortunately, not everyone is able to have this. That's why we celebrated Souper Bowl Sunday in February. Thanks to all of you the youth groups were able to donate \$208 and 251 cans of soup to Human Concerns in South Milwaukee! Thank you for your donations!

March is going to be a fun and busy month for the youth groups. The confirmation youth will be heading to Wisconsin Dells for the Quake. Then the other youth groups will be going bowling. The elementary youth will be bowling on March 13th and the MS & HS youth will be bowling on March 20th. We plan on going to Classic Lanes in Oak Creek, but if this changes, I will let you know.

Peace,
Becca

Upcoming Events:

March

4th-6th- Quake/Zone

13th- Elementary Bowling, 1-3, @ Classic Lanes

20th- MS & HS Bowling, 1-3, @ Classic Lanes

April

2nd/3rd- 30 Hour Famine Weekend

10th- All Youth Event, 1-3, Easter Baskets for Foster Youth

16th- Palm Sunday Breakfast Prep, 1-3

17th- Palm Sunday Breakfast, 9-10:15

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS



Christmas Offerings

After tallying all of our gifts from the Sunday School Christmas program and the Sunday School Advent boxes, we sent \$250.00 to both Human Concerns and the Salvation Army-Oak Creek. Thank you to all who generously made this possible.

Lent and Ash Wednesday

The Lenten season begins Ash Wednesday, March 9th and continues each Wednesday evening at 7:00 PM through April 13th. We encourage all Sunday School students to attend these weekly services in addition to our normal Sunday School and Worship service schedule. We also hope you can join us for a Soup and Sandwich Supper before the March 30th Lenten service.

Vacation Bible School

As announced last month, VBS is scheduled from August 1st through August 5th from 9:00 AM to 11:30 AM. The theme for this year's event will be "Hometown Nazareth: Where Jesus Was a Kid". As always, we encourage your support by volunteering as a teacher, helper, or center leader and/or walking in either or both the Oak Creek Fourth of July parade and the South Milwaukee Heritage Days parade.

Scholarship Applications

Please note that Scholarship Applications will be available beginning Sunday, March 13th and must be returned by May 1st to receive consideration. The Scholarship Awards decision and notification is expected to be made by Monday, May 9th. The 2010 Annual Report indicated there was \$669.00 in the Scholarship Fund.

Ray Bergwin and Sharon Piastowski

CARE FOR CREATION RECYCLING HINTS

Most plastics are recyclable by most recycling companies. #3 is made with pvc and may leach chemicals into the liquids they contain. Try to buy in bulk, and refill your own reusable containers to reduce the packaging required. This usually saves you money as well.

There are specific recycle baskets at church for items which are not taken by curbside pickup. One is for small electronics such as cell phones and batteries. This is not for large electronic items or CFL bulbs. If CFL bulbs break, they can release a small amount of mercury which can be very expensive to clean up. Larger companies which sell these bulbs (i.e. Menards and Home Depot) will take them from you and dispose of them properly. We hope to have a large electronic items pick up sometime in April.

The collection of used tennis shoes has gone well, and we will continue to offer this service.

Unused or out-of-date prescriptions are now taken by most local Police Departments. We usually offer an April pick up for these meds, and we will keep you informed of this upcoming date.

Please donate your unused or slightly used quality clothing to a Goodwill (or similar charity outlet), so people in need can make use of these items. These donations are tax deductible.

Use a canvas or reusable shopping bags, instead of using the many plastic bags which stores offer.



TRINITY SCHOLARSHIP NEWS

In order to continually promote the Scholarship Program we wish to promote the guidance for awarding Church Scholarships:

Applicants are active in the life of the congregation through worship, receiving the sacraments, continuing education (Sunday School, Bible Study, Campus Ministry programs), youth events, and volunteer work.

Applicants are accepted or enrolled as a full time student to attend classes on a campus of a Lutheran seminary, Lutheran college, or other accredited colleges and universities.

Applicants are seeking a degree at one of the following levels:

Associate Degree

Bachelor Degree

Master Degree

Ph D

Applicants may receive one scholarship from Trinity Lutheran church for each degree he/she is pursuing. If an applicant is not successful in receiving a scholarship in a given year, he/she may apply the following year.

The Scholarship criteria will be published in the "Tidings" each year until this year's awards are made. Scholarship applications will be available March 13, 2011 with a deadline for submission on May 1st. The decision on Scholarship Awards will be made May 9th.

We appreciate the generosity of all those who have given to the Scholarship Program and ask for your continued support. Donations to the Scholarship program should be made using the blue designated fund envelopes or a plain envelope. Please indicate Scholarship fund on either envelope.

SATURDAY STITCHERS

The Saturday Stitchers will meet from 1:00-3:00 on March 12. All are welcome. Bring your favorite project and spend a couple of hours in fellowship.



SOUTH MILWAUKEE/OAK CREEK INTERFAITH...

Is looking for **volunteers to drive** and to help older adults in our community. Even if you can spare as little as 1 hour per month, we could use your help. A great opportunity for retired people to help in our community. Please call: **762-1998**.

HUMAN CONCERNS

The first weekend of each month is designated as Human Concerns Day. Please bring some non-perishable food items to place in the bin. The emphasis for March is canned fruit and vegetables, boxed dinners, and soup.

HOSPITAL STAYS

Federal law greatly restricts the disclosure of patient information by hospitals. As a result, the pastor and church office may not know that a church member has been admitted to the hospital. If you are hospitalized and would like to notify the pastor, it is important that you (or a family member) inform the church office as soon as possible. Call us at 762-6626. Remember, hospitals can no longer provide this information for us.

PICK-'N SAVE "WE CARE" PROGRAM

Trinity is still part of Pick' n Save's "We Care" program. If you have Trinity's account number 838900 listed on your Advantage Plus Savers Club card, we will automatically be credited with purchases from any Pick' n Save store included. Proceeds are used to help fund our Youth Group.

STEWARDSHIP: SM RECYCLING/YOUTH FUND

South Milwaukee Recycling, 1200 Minnesota Ave. (762-1700) will take your aluminum cans and other metal and send a check to our Youth Fund. All you need do is tell the worker that you would like your "earnings" to be donated to the Trinity Lutheran Youth Fund and they will do the rest.

New Reviews from your Trinity Library:

Fusion: Turning First-Time Guests into Fully-Engaged Members of Your Church

Nelson Search, publisher: Regal, paperback, 176 pages

Next Sunday God will prompt hundreds of thousands of people in the United States, and millions around the world, to visit a church for the first time. The Sunday after that, He will do it again. God is consistently blessing His Church with regular guests. Are we doing all we can to accept and honor His blessing?

Built on Nelson Searcy's Assimilation Seminar, Fusion offers you a step-by-step, biblically-grounded, tested and proven plan for establishing a relationship with newcomers that starts with the first seven minutes of their visit and ultimately prompts them to become fully developing members of your congregation. This innovative, practical guide is full of how-to information, testimonials from newcomers-turned-members and from participating church leaders, examples of assimilation materials, and check points to make sure you stay on track. Here is help for setting newcomers on the path toward true life transformation and spiritual maturity.

Author Nelson Searcy is the founding pastor of The Journey Church of the City in New York City, which he and his wife, Kelley, began from scratch in 2002 and now has more than 1,000 members. He has personally trained more than 20,000 church planters and church leaders in live events and seminars through Church

Leader Insights, an Internet resource for pastors.

Alive And Loose in the Ordinary: Stories of the Incarnation

by Martha Sterne, Morehouse Publishing, paperback, 120 pages

"Except for once, I have never heard the voice of Jesus without some person or place in the creation doing the speaking for him. So I want to witness to the power of the Incarnation alive and loose in the ordinariness of the world for us and through us and among us. And I offer these little sketches of remembered grace to invite you to notice your own soul's companions and the thin places in your life through which grace, well, springs."

With a light touch and warm voice, and just a hint of a Southern accent, Martha Sterne tells the stories of her encounters with Christ – in the supermarket and the beauty parlor, in the garden, the kitchen, and sometimes even the church. Sterne shares her gift for storytelling, showing readers that the Incarnation is alive and loose everywhere they look, in the listening ears, kind voices, and loving hearts of people they bump into everywhere. Each essay is followed by reflection questions, making this a lovely volume for group study.

Author Martha Sterne is an Episcopal priest and a popular writer and speaker. She has published articles in *Christian Century* and *Journal for Preachers*, and is the author of *Earthly Good*. She lives in Tennessee.

SUNDAY SCHOOL BIRTHDAYS IN MARCH

March 3	Natalia Flores
March 7	Fred Keating
March 8	Joshua Janusiak
March 11	Emily Byrd
March 15	Emily Garlie
March 17	Natalie Lawien
March 19	Brianna Gaidosh
March 22	Ava Dalecky
March 24	Gary Krenzer
March 25	Emma Larson
March 28	Lucia Flores
March 29	Stephanie Ploch
March 30	Hannah Fischer
March 30	Braydon Ulezelski



ALTAR FLOWER SCHEDULE

March 06	Jim & Sandi Rogosienski/Lori Mijokovic
March 13	Chris & Lelia Haeger/*
March 20	Jerome & Sue Zylka/Gloria Lange
March 27	Jeff & Chris Jagler/Cary & Sylvia Fischer
April 03	Nate & Liz Keller, Sean & Theresa Sieg

THE FLORAL CHART IS POSTED
NEXT TO THE OFFICE DOOR

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

March 5	5:00 PM	Dan Romich
March 6	8:00 AM	Sue Czysh, Linn Walloch Ron & Margaret McMullen
	10:30 AM	David Hahn, Betsy Baranek Emily Baranek, Maddie Baranek
March 12	5:00 PM	Danny Soddy
March 13	8:00 AM	Lori Mijokovic, Jay Kullmann Patrick & Rebecca Conway
	10:30 AM	Cindy Felicki, Kristi Jagler Cristina Crogan, Elisabeth Carrion
March 19	5:00 PM	Linn Walloch
March 20	8:00 AM	Patty Johnson, Kasey Warwick Jeff Jagler, Jenna Jagler
	10:30 AM	Nate Keller, Allen Schubert Jim & Gail English
March 26	5:00 PM	Diane Banach
March 27	8:00 AM	Becca Mains, Karen Crump Gary & Ann Zander
	10:30 AM	Steve & Sandy Mueller Donna Leu, Jenny Leu

BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS

March 20	Jeff Crogan
April 17	Nancy Druckrey



ALTAR GUILD

March	Eunice Draeger, Doris Mueller Margaret McMullen
April	Jean Belter, Alice Grant, Diane Banach

COMMUNION GLASS WASHERS

March 1-15	Al and Shirley Czysh
March 16-31	Diane Banach



Coffee Makers

March 6	Ron & Phyllis Henriksen
March 13	Debi Paget
March 20	Sandi Rogosienski
March 27	Les Touve

USHERS

March 5 & 6

- 5:00 Jay Kullmann, Danielle Romich
8:00 John Wawrzyniak, Dick Schaefer, Al Czysh, Deb Grahovac
10:30 Ken Peterson, Mike Radtke, Seward & Darleen Owen

March 12 & 13

- 5:00 Linn Walloch, LaVerne Vad
8:00 Ed Mueller, Gary Mueller, Les Touve, Ron McMullen
10:30 Mike Danes, Cristina Crogan, Bob Kilby, Alan Kilby

March 19 & 20

- 5:00 Donna Dupuis, Danny Soddy
8:00 Greg Crump, Craig Thoreson, Wally & Holli Cieczka
10:30 David Hahn, Nick Ulezelski, Cindy Felicki, Jerome Zylka

March & 27

- 5:00 Mark & Terry Draeger
8:00 Ray Bergwin, Julie Thiel, Gail Rebernick, Bill Elmore
10:30 Bob Olson, Paul Graeven, Sarah Brooks, Jenny Leu

NURSERY ATTENDANTS

March 5	5:00 PM	Colette Feldman
March 6	8:00 AM	Holli Cieczka
	10:30 AM	Amy Radtke
March 12	5:00 PM	Janine Kaczmarowski
March 13	8:00 AM	Lelia Haeger
	10:30 AM	Genavieve Danes
March 19	5:00 PM	Danielle Romich
March 20	8:00 AM	Ann Janz
	10:30 AM	Amy Radtke
March 26	5:00 AM	Danny Soddy
March 27	8:00 AM	Kasey Warwick
	10:30 AM	Liz Keller

SCHEDULED READERS

March 5	5:00 PM	Laura Carlson
March 6	8:00 AM	Rick Cole
	10:30 AM	Betsy Baranek
March 12	5:00 PM	Mark Draeger
March 13	8:00 AM	Sharon Piastowski
	10:30 AM	Sarah Brooks
March 19	5:00 PM	Kevin Dathe
March 20	8:00 AM	Phyllis Henriksen
	10:30 AM	Sondra Graeven
March 26	5:00 PM	Tim Truckenmiller
March 27	8:00 AM	Stan Druckrey
	10:30 AM	Sharon Schraith

GREETERS

March 5	5:00 PM	Grace Proft and Kristi Theisen
March 6	8:00 AM	Keith & Jean Belter
	10:30 AM	Jon & Sandy Anderson
March 12	5:00 PM	Greg & Ann Buck
March 13	8:00 AM	Matt & Kari Bruins
	10:30 AM	Dorothy Engelbart and Paul Graeven
March 19	5:00 PM	Kevin & Gina Dathe
March 20	8:00 AM	Al & Shirley Czysh
	10:30 AM	Bob & Nancy Kilby
March 26	5:00 PM	Joan Dorcey and Alice Demlow
March 27	8:00 AM	Eunice Draeger and Bill Elmore
	10:30 AM	Nicole Lentz and Bob Olson

ACOLYTES

March 5	5:00 PM	Hannah Fischer
March 6	8:00 AM	Alexis Cuda, Emily Ploch
	10:30 AM	*
March 9	7:00 PM	Eric Wendt
(Ash Wednesday)		
March 12	5:00 PM	*
March 13	8:00 AM	*
	10:30 AM	Paul Graeven, *
March 16	7:00 PM	Nolan Rebernick
March 19	5:00 PM	Victoria Fischer
March 20	8:00 AM	Alexis Cuda, Emily Ploch
	10:30 AM	*
March 23	7:00 PM	Eric Wendt
March 26	5:00 PM	*
March 27	8:00 AM	Nolan Rebernick, *
	10:30 AM	*
March 30	7:00 PM	Eric Wendt

THE SYMBOLISM OF ASHES

On the first day of Lent, pastors in many churches dip a finger in ashes (often made by burning palm branches from the previous year's Palm Sunday) and make a cross on parishioners' foreheads.

God's people have used ashes as a sign of mourning, humiliation and penitence. In the Old Testament, ashes were used as a purification offering. The New Testament speaks of repenting in "sackcloth and ashes" (Luke 10:13, NRSV).

On Ash Wednesday, Christians are pained because our sins — private and public — led to Jesus' death. With repentant hearts, we begin the season of Lent, knowing it leads to resurrection on Easter Sunday.

