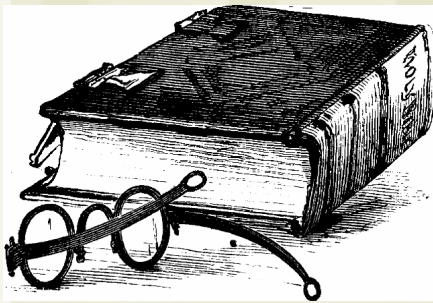


# Some Words on Living Word

L I V I N G   W O R D   L U T H E R A N   C H U R C H

P A S T O R A L   P O N D E R I N G



Lent begins in mid-February. Most of us, having grown up in the church, know something about Lent. But, for those who have not had that opportunity, and those who can use a bit of a refresher...

Lent is a Christian Festival – a time when Christians prepare for the greatest of the Christian festivals, Easter, by thinking of things they have done wrong and trying to overcome their faults as a way of showing their sorrow and repentance for the sin which led Jesus to be crucified on their behalf. In the past it was a long, strict religious fast when people gave up all rich food. By doing so, people often found that they craved what they could not have, and whenever they felt a craving it reminding them of the suffering of Jesus on their behalf – thus, leading

them to spend time in prayer rather than in self-indulgence. Because Lent is traditionally a time of abstinence, of giving things up, Shrove Tuesday (the day before Ash Wednesday) was the day on which all ‘forbidden’ foods were cleaned out of the pantry in preparation for the fast. Many people used up the last of the fat, butter, and eggs by making and eating things like donuts and pancakes. However, over time Shrove Tuesday became more and more of a last chance to indulge yourself before Lent begins (Thus developed the much more pagan celebration of Mardi Gras in New Orleans and Carnivale in Brazil). Lent was seen as a time for spring-cleaning lives, just as we do with our homes.

However, today the church no longer imposes a strict fast, and people who still choose to ‘give up’ something for Lent often choose to do

so in order to lose weight or change a habit rather than using this practice as a way to better discipline their prayer life and grow closer to Christ. However, the emphasis within the church is still upon repentance, study, and worship – all of which help us grow closer to Christ. Many churches, like ours, still hold special mid-week Lenten services and Bible studies to help us refocus our lives. So, as part of your Lenten discipline, plan to join us on Wednesday evenings at 6 p.m. for a covered-dish dinner and at 7 p.m. for worship. Also, on Sunday mornings we will be gathering for an adult Bible study at 8:45 a.m. Be sure to check out further information on the services and Bible study elsewhere in this newsletter.

*Pastor Mark*

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### YOUTH GROUP AND SUNDAY SCHOOL

#### YOUTH GROUP:

In Dec. the youth and some of our adult members went Christmas caroling at Allegany Nursing and Rehab. Center. They also went to the homes of Stan Goodrich, Mildred Deter, and Clay Stotler's. They gave comfort quilts to Stan, Mildred, and Dorothy Snyder. In Jan. they gave a Comfort quilt to Eleanor Stotler. With these quilts our youth have the opportunity to let others know that they care about them.

We were unable to meet in January but plan to meet again on the third Sunday in February to knit fleece blankets and donate them to nursing home patients.

#### SUNDAY SCHOOL:

Sunday school classes met on the first and 2nd Sunday's of

Jan.

The lesson on Jan. 6th was on Epiphany. After the lesson the children were given Wise men ornaments as a token to remind them to follow the Spirit of Christ.

Their second class taught the children how in scripture Jesus is the "light of the World". They were given small lights that they made into lamps to remind them to bring Jesus' light into the world.

**Attention Sunday school teachers: We still need volunteers to teach on March 10th, May 5th, and June 9th. If you can teach one of these Sunday's please contact Phyllis at mpalban@frontiernet.net or 304-947-7060.**

### P R A Y E R L I S T

Please continue to keep the following people in your prayers this month...

- Arlene and Harry Foreback
- Clay and Eleanor Stotler
- Stan and Helen Goodrich
- Louise Gilpin
- Jenora Hare



Caroling at Allegany Co. Nursing Home

**NEWS CONCERNING OUR CONGREGATION**  
**BY SADIE KOSER**

AND THE WINNER IS...Ken Alkire! His name was drawn Saturday, December 15th when the women held their monthly quilting session. A total of \$920 raised in the sale of tickets was given to the building fund. Phyllis Alban is the director of the Living Word Quilters. Our sincere appreciation to all the women who gave of their time to make the quilt and to Bonnie Keller who had charge of the ticket sales...and giving the proceeds to our future building!

A total of 20 Quilts made by the same church women were given to the Union Rescue Mission for

Christmas. They were on the altar on December 16th and Pastor Mark had the quilt blessing during worship hour.

At the same service the Youth Group had 3 of their quilts to be given to home-bound members. Each child created their own square greeting. A big thank-you to our talented youth for this great project!

During the congregational meeting following worship hour on Sunday, December 9th, three members were approved as members of LWLC Council. They are Gene Cave, Kim Henson, and

Sadie Koser. During the worship hour on Sunday, January 27th Pastor Mark officiated at the Installation of the council members. The officers are: Andi Liller - President, Mike Alban - Vice President, Susan Weems - Secretary, and Vicki Larrick - Treasurer. The other council members are Jim Squires, Al Lantz, Chris and Karen McCabe, with Pastor Mark.

Congratulations to Tanya (McIntosh) Palmer on being awarded her diploma and graduate nursing pin in Keyser Presbyterian Church recently, at the Mineral County School of Practical Nursing Ceremony. Tanya re-



NEWS OF OUR CONGREGATION CONTINUED

ceived the first scholarship to honor Rita Jean Harber who retired from her position as Coordinator of the School of Nursing following the ceremony. Tanya who will be attending Allegany College of Maryland in June, graduated first in her class of 18 students. She is the 28 year old daughter of Mike McIntosh and granddaughter of Joe and Paula. A former employee of the Garrett County State Roads office, Tanya is married to Bryan Palmer and the couple reside at rural route, Grantsville, Maryland. Tanya recently accepted a position at WMHS Frostburg Nursing and Rehabilitation Center.

Sincere sympathy to the family of Willis McIntyre who died on January 20th at Egle Nursing and Rehab Center (Lonaconing) at the age of 94. His funeral was held in the chapel of Boal Funeral Home on January 23rd with Reverend Gary Rankin officiating. Interment was in Potomac Memeorial Gardens, Keyser. Among the survivors are his son Bob McIntyre and

wife, Becky, who have been attending our church for several months.

The Principals Choice of Northeast Elementary School presented their list for the first nine week period. Riley Zang was named on the honor list. She is a member of the fourth grade!



Caroling & quilt gift

for

Mildred & Charlie Deter

NEWS OF OUR CONGREGATION CONTINUED

Thought for the Month:

*In trying times...don't quit trying!*



Christmas Eve, 2012



Caroling @ Clay & Eleanor Steller's

## L E N T E N   S E R I E S   -   F A C I N G   T H E   C R O S S

Wednesday Evening Worship Services (7:00 p.m.) will be a series of special services which focus on last days of Jesus here on this earth, when he "set his face" to Jerusalem to encounter the pain of the cross on our behalf (Luke 9:51). In the same way in this Lenten series, we set our faces on the cross of Christ that lies before us. As we face the cross during these Lenten days, we also face certain aspects in our lives which are not always in line with the cross. We come to terms with them in this series through the cross of Christ—who came to save us that we might see him face-to-face in heaven.

Ash Wednesday

"Facing Our Sins" • Romans 3:23-24

We come to terms with our sinfulness and rejoice in Christ's forgiveness.

Week 1

"Facing Temptation" • Hebrews 4:14-15

We acknowledge that we give in to temptations at times, but rest on the power of Christ to resist the devil.

Week 2

"Facing Our Fears" • Isaiah 41:10

Recognizing what strikes fear in our hearts helps us to grab on more tightly to Christ.

Week 3

"Facing Our Worldliness" • Matthew 6:19-21

Accepting we are often all too dependent on worldly goods opens the door to seeing the value of everlasting blessings.

Week 4

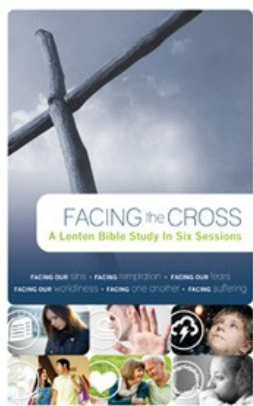
"Facing One Another" • Ephesians 4:31-32

Confessing that we have not always treated each other in a Christlike manner helps to build better relationships.

Week 5

"Facing Suffering" • Romans 8:18-19

Enduring suffering in this world connects us to Christ and points us to the joy to come.



Sunday Morning Bible Study (8:45 a.m. beginning on February 17<sup>th</sup>) is a six-week Lenten Bible study which follows the themes of the Facing The Cross worship series. Each session in this Bible study is related to things we are "facing" as Christians in this world today. Topics follow the same outline as the midweek services which precede them – facing our sins, temptation, our fears, our worldliness, one another and suffering.



### QUILT MINISTRY

The quilters keep on quilting and we are now in need of some specific supplies to help us complete quilts. The main need is cotton flat sheets for the backing piece. Any size will work. They can be new or gently used.

Note: As usual if you have sheets that are more than gently used, there are good parts that we can cut squares out of.

Please contact Phyllis Alban with any questions.

### MINISTRY OF SHARING

Craft night for our 3rd Anniversary celebration preparation will be Sunday, February 10 at 5:00 PM. Please bring a covered dish and join us for fellowship and crafting!

Refreshments will be the 2nd Sunday of the month following service. Please feel free to contribute your creations. If you have any questions, please contact Andi Liller, or another member of the sharing ministry team.



LIVING WORD  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

P.O. Box 1825  
Cumberland, MD 21502  
Meeting at 801 Virginia Avenue

Pastor Mark C. Dill  
pastormarkdill@gmail.com  
301-777-0000

Taking a Living Christ to a Dying World

## February Events

- Sun 2/3 - 10 a.m. - Worship  
After worship - Sunday School
- Wed 2/6 - No Choir Rehearsal
- Sun 2/10 - 10 a.m. - Worship  
After worship - Refreshments & Sunday School
- Wed 2/13 Ash Wednesday - 6 p.m. - Covered Dish Dinner  
7 p.m. - Worship, After Worship - Choir Rehearsal
- Sun 2/17 - 8:45 a.m. - Lenten Bible Study  
10 a.m. - Worship  
After Worship - Youth Group
- Wed 2/20 - 6 p.m. - Covered Dish Dinner  
7 p.m. - Lenten Worship  
After Worship - Choir Rehearsal
- Sun 2/24 - 8:45 a.m. - Lenten Bible Study  
10 a.m. - Worship  
After Worship - Council
- Wed 2/27 - 6 p.m. - Covered Dish Dinner  
7 p.m. - Lenten Worship  
After Worship - Choir Rehearsal

## February Birthdays

- 3 - Kay Chaney  
9 - Clay Stotler  
10 - Sadie Koser  
10 - Lori Squires  
15 - Karl Eriksson  
19 - Paula McIntosh  
25 - Donna Lewis  
26 - Clint Larrick

## March Birthdays

- 2 - Kristi Hughes  
3 - Evelyn Pague  
7 - Annabeth Hughes  
16 - Adrian Weems  
20 - Vicki Larrick  
20 - Mike Burkey  
23 - Melva Friedland  
26 - Nathanael Dill  
27 - Eleanor Stotler

## March Anniversaries

- 8 - Chris and Karen McCabe  
11 - Ann and Mike Burkey

## February Anniversaries

- 7 - Michael and Karen Tamorria

## March Events

- Sun 3/3 - 8:45 a.m. - Lenten Bible Study  
10 a.m. - Worship  
After Worship - Sunday School
- Wed 3/6 - 6 p.m. - Covered Dish Dinner  
7 p.m. - Lenten Worship  
After Worship - Choir Rehearsal