

The Beacon



Pastoral Ponderings ...

“For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.”

1 Corinthians 12:12-13

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Blessings to you in these last couple days of February! Guess what? I had an anniversary the other day - Wednesday, Feb. 16th to be exact. This anniversary marked one year since coming to Family of God. What a joy it has been and continues to be to serve among you here.

Family of God has many gifts that I have seen over the year. Your gifts of hospitality, acceptance, strong faith, the family-like atmosphere, are all marks of your congregation. As I have served among you, I have heard your desire to grow and to feel more vital as a congregation. I have heard your desire for a sustainable education program for both youth and adults. I have heard your desire to have a youth group for our older youth. And I have heard your desire for some diversity in worship music.

As we have lived into our first year together, I feel that all of these desires are within our reach. In fact, I believe we are ready to turn a corner. But it is going to take some work on all of our behalf. If we want to grow in 2011, let's **all** become part of the outreach effort. If we want those that visit Family of God to become a part of the mission and ministry of the church, let's create a sustainable education program to attract those families with young children. If we want a variety of worship styles in music and liturgy, let's build a diverse music program. **Certainly, to do all of this takes time, commitment (on everyone's part), and yes, continued and increased giving.**

Committees/Teams are currently coming together after our first and very exciting February Council meeting, that for the first time all year, has a full slate of Council members! The excitement is riding high and you are invited to come and be a part of the excitement. **What are your gifts?** How can you share your gifts for the building up of the Body of Christ? Perhaps you have gifts educating others or for visioning or planning, or perhaps even for teaching! Bring your gifts to the **Education** team! Are you good with your hands, or enjoy projects? Come be a part of the **Property** team and help keep the church and grounds in shape. Perhaps your gifts lie in liturgy, worship leadership or sharing gifts you have in music. Bring your passion to the **Music and Worship** team! Do you have a propensity for managing what God has first given us? Bring your gifts to the **Stewardship** team. Have you always felt a call to help others, to follow the command Jesus has given us to feed the hungry, or clothe the naked? Bring your passion to the **Mission** team. Perhaps you have the gift of hospitality, and love talking with people. Come and be a part of the **Outreach** team. If you have a passion to help others be spiritually and physically fit, come and be a part of the **Health and Wellness** team.

This year, let's all ask ourselves: How is God calling me to share **my** gifts for the building up of the Body of Christ. **Pray about it, talk about it, and then check out who the new Chairs are of the various teams on page 4, and give one of them a call and tell them you'll serve!**

I believe that God has a specific mission for Family of God to be the Body of Christ in this particular time and in this particular place! It is such an exciting time to be the church. Let's grow together into this next year together!

Church Office Hours:

Weekdays 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Telephone: 218-773-1433

Pr. Sonja's Cell: 701-740-5123

Pastor Sonja Brucklacher
pastorsonja@familyofgodlutheran.org

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shellie@familyofgodlutheran.org

Custodian: Jared Clausen



March Birthday's

- | | | | |
|---------|-----------------|----------|------------------|
| March 1 | Tony Grainger | March 11 | Jake Peterson |
| March 2 | Joan Vettel | March 15 | Steve Magenau |
| March 5 | Gabriel Mertz | March 21 | Thomas Cariveau |
| March 6 | Raygan Schaffer | March 23 | Gary Kluzak |
| March 7 | Ken Stevenson | March 25 | Lindsey Hanson |
| March 9 | Debby Hearn | March 31 | Richard Schaffer |



Birthdays for March

**Our February 2011 Sponsor –
A-Sunday Gift Sponsors**
February 13th ~ In honor of
Jared Clausen's birthday
By: Steve and Sue Clausen

*Thank You,
Lord!*

Remember in Prayer

Punky Hanson,
Ellis Larson,
Lisa Feltman,
and
Tina Fontaine

In our Prayers

In Loving Memory
Memorial Fund
Andy Sjostrand
From: Nadine Paulson



Worship Matters...

Lent begins on March 9 ...

Lent is a season of soul-searching and repentance. It is a season for reflection and taking stock. Lent originated in the very earliest days of the Church as a preparatory time for Easter, when the faithful rededicated themselves and when converts were instructed in the faith and prepared for baptism. By observing the forty days of Lent, the Christian imitates Jesus' withdrawal into the wilderness for forty days. **Family of God will be observing the season of Lent beginning on March 9th with the observance of Ash Wednesday.** Plan to come for a Lenten supper at 6:00 p.m. with the Ash Wednesday worship to follow. The service will include the Imposition of Ashes as well as Communion.

Council Installation ...On Sunday, October 20th, we rejoiced as the 2011 Council was installed. **Sherri Erickson, Lyn Pankratz, Dave Pankratz, George Kelley, Tami Schumacher and Richard Schaffer** were installed as the newest members of Council and the returning members of Council installed were, **Sheryl Cariveau, Scott Erickson, Steve Clausen, Bob Quamme, Melissa Ziegler and Chris Arnold.** Please hold all of the Council members in your prayers as they serve their church.

A Director of Music for Family of God ... a fundraiser on March 8th!

As Family of God looks at ways of reaching out into the community, one thing is clear. A church's worship music can be a great outreach! Questions such as: *is it worshipful? is it diverse? is there something for everyone?* might be asked about a church's worship music style by those looking for a church home. As we look at ways we can reach out as church, Family of God would like to consider hiring a **Director of Music**. This person would be the primary accompanist, direct the choir, plan some diverse styles of worship music, coordinate special music, and work directly with the pastor and chairperson of the Music and Worship team to coordinate the worship services at Family of God.

But, those of you who were at the Annual Meeting know that the money is not there to add another staff person to the church staff. As the Council was grappling with this fact, it was decided that perhaps having a couple of fund raisers each year could afford Family of God this luxury. For this reason, the Family of God Church Council is planning our first fund raiser to be **March 8th which is "Fat Tuesday"**! (The day before Ash Wednesday, a time when traditionally, all Christians clean out their pantries to prepare for the fasting of Lent). This year, whether you fast or not for Lent, Be sure to come to the first annual **"Fat Tuesday Spaghetti Feed"**. **Watch for more details!**



A Little of This and That ...

How is God calling you to serve at Family of God? ...How is God calling you to use your gifts at Family of God? Council teams are forming right now and any of the Council Chairs would love to hear from you!

Steve Clausen -	President: 218- 773-7777
Sheryl Cariveau -	Vice President/ Chair, Health and Wellness Team: 218-773-3533
George Kelley -	Secretary/ Chair, Mission Team: 218-773-4262
Chris Arnold -	Treasurer
Sherri Erickson -	Financial Secretary: 218-773-3047
Scott Erickson -	Chair, Evangelism and Outreach Team: 218-773-4338
Bob Quamme -	Chair, Stewardship Team: 218-773-3170
Lyn Pankratz -	Chair, Education and Youth Team: 701-775-0482
Dave Pankratz -	Chair, Property Team: 701-775-0482
Tami Schumacher -	Chair, Music and Worship Team: 218-773-3652
Richard Schaffer -	Evangelism and Outreach Team member: 218-791-3645
Melissa Ziegler -	Education and Youth Team member: 218-893-2432

Lutheran Women Today Bible study ...

All women of the church are invited to our monthly women's bible study. This month's study out of the Lutheran Women Today will be Session 7 "The People of God: Unity in the midst of Diversity" series. The lesson being covered this month is on "**Loving Relationships**". Mark your calendar for March 11th at 9:30 a.m. and the coffee pot is always on!

Ladies Night Out ...

The ladies had a lot of fun in February as we headed out to Applebee's for some dinner and some fun. As we emphasize outreach this year, the ladies were invited to bring another lady who was not connected in any way to Family of God. We had some great food and great conversation! **The March Ladies Night Out will have a Lenten emphasis** as we travel to First Presbyterian Church on South Washington to walk their indoor Prayer Labyrinth. We will have an opportunity to learn more about this contemplative prayer technique prior to walking through the Labyrinth on that evening. **Let Pastor Sonja know if you plan on coming and we will figure out rides.**

Date: March 14th

Time: 6:30 p.m.

From your Health and Wellness Committee ...

Health and Wellness is in the planning stages of a new ministry called, "**Fellowship Fit**". Fellowship Fit will emphasize getting physically and spiritually fit through a variety of means. Mayo Clinic's "Wellness Wheel" will be introduced, speakers on nutrition will be available, as well as an opportunity for exercise through walking and the Wii Fit. Watch for more details in April ...



What's going on in the Community ...

World Day of Prayer ...

The World Day of Prayer is a worldwide ecumenical movement begun by Christian women of many traditions who come together each year to observe a common day of prayer on the first Friday in March. The women of Chile wrote this year's service, "How many loaves have you?" asking what gifts we have to share with others. Please join us to learn more about the concerns of the women of Chile. **March 4, 2011 at 2 p.m. at Sacred Heart Church. All are invited!**

Rest Renew and Rejoice ...

**2011 Women's Retreat
March 25-26
Calvary Lutheran Church, Grand Forks, ND .
Registration: \$55.00, Students: \$25.00
Registration Deadline: March 17**

The retreat begins with supper Friday and ends Saturday evening. It is not an overnight retreat. It will include break out sessions, a justice Market, service project, worship, food and fellowship. Guest Speaker: Judie Siegle, Paralympian and author of "Living Without Limits"

Register at Calvary Lutheran Church Office or Calvarygf.org

CVIC ... Community Violence Intervention Center ...

The CVIC is offering a 6-week closed support group for sexual assault survivors beginning in March. This group will be held at CVIC, and will be facilitated by a licensed professional counselor. For questions, please contact Therese at 701-746-0405 or therese@cviconline.org.

WELCA Cluster meeting ...

Our Savior's will be hosting the WELCA cluster meeting on **Saturday, April 9th** from 9:00 a.m. to 12 pm. The theme will be: "Our lives are like quilts, bits and pieces, joy and sorrow, stitched with love". All women are invited and Pastor Sonja has been invited to present a bible study on the theme during the morning.



March Sharing Your Gifts

Ushers

March 6 Bob & Barb Quamme
 March 13 Dave & Lyn Pankratz
 March 20 Kenny & Nadine Paulson
 March 27 Trevor Grainger

Communion Assistants

March 6 Raygan Schaffer & Trevor Grainger
 March 13 Charissa Schaffer & Mary Schaffer
 March 20 Ann Peterson & Trevor Grainger
 March 27 Richard Schaffer & Sue Clausen

Lector

March 6 Bob Quamme
 March 13 Barb Quamme
 March 20 Mary Schaffer
 March 27 Barb Quamme

Accompanist

March 6 Linda Larson
 March 13 Laura Arnold
 March 20
 March 27

Liturgy Assistant

March 6 Mark Holt
 March 13 Barb Quamme
 March 20 Barb Quamme
 March 27 Scott Erickson

Altar Care

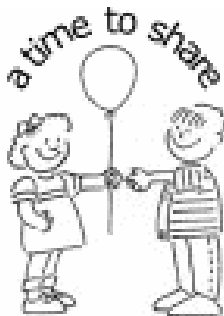
March 6 Elaine Sundberg
 March 13
 March 20
 March 27

Coffee Fellowship

March 6 Mark & Marilyn Holt
 March 13
 March 20
 March 27 Steve & Sue Clausen

Acolytes

March 6 Raygan Schaffer
 March 13 Charissa Schaffer
 March 20 Kendra Magenau
 March 27 Alec Hanson



Sidewalk Snow Removal

(please come 30 minutes prior to the service)

March 6
 March 13
 March 20
 March 27 Steve Clausen



February 2011 Church Council Minutes ...

- **Call to Order:** 10:55am
- **Roll Call:** Melisa Ziegler, Scott Erickson, Steve Clausen, Bob Quamme, Lynn and Dave Pankratz, Pastor Sonja, George Kelley, Richard Schaffer, Sheryl Cariveau, Sherry Erickson.
Absent: Chris Arnold and Tami Schumacher
- **Prayer** led by Pastor Sonja
- **Adoption of Agenda:** Motion Cheryl, 2nd Scott. All in favor.
- **Pastor's Report:** Pastor has been with us now for 1yr. - Discussion regarding Lenten services, change in confirmation schedule during lent, Big event/church clean up day, Director of Music, increasing outreach, some property items that needs fixing, stewardship, etc. Council Social get-together planned for council members and "significant others" on April 9th @ Richard's home.
- **Approval of Minutes:** No minutes available from last month.
- **Old Business:** IRS bill for possible past owed taxes. Discussion and Motion (by Scott) made to pay bill at this time so that we do not accrue penalty charges while the IRS investigates this claim. (could take up to 90 days). 2nd by George. All in favor.
- **New Business:**
 - 2011 Council Representatives**
 - Election of Officers:** Discussion and Motion made by Steve (2nd Melissa, all in favor) to add Financial Secretary position to Council officers and divide some of the responsibilities. Treasurer will serve as the auditor/treasurer. The Financial Secretary will cut Payroll checks; reconcile General account and generate financial report for Council; Quarterly taxes; End of Year financials including closing out previous year on Shepherd's Staff. Church Secretary will pay monthly bills; enter deposits and enter weekly giving.
President: Steve Clausen (nominated by Scott, 2nd Bob, all in favor)
Vice President: Sheryl Cariveau (nominated by George, 2nd Scott, all in favor)
Secretary: George Kelley (volunteered nomination, 2nd Scott, all in favor)
Treasurer: Chris Arnold (nominated by Steve, 2nd Melissa, all in favor)
Financial Secretary: Sherri Erickson (nominated by Scott, 2nd Sheryl, all in favor)
 - Committee Chairs:** Mission Team-George Kelley, Stewardship/Finance-Bob Quamme and Steve Clausen, Health and Wellness-Sheryl Cariveau, Evangelism/Outreach-Scott Erickson, Sheryl Cariveau, Richard Schaffer, Lyn Pankratz, and Sherri Erickson, Education/Youth-Lynn Pankratz and Melissa Ziegler, Property-Dave Pankratz and Chris Arnold, Music and Worship-Tami Schumacher
 - Discussion choir Director:** Discussion regarding having a Director of Music position at FOG: Julie Deziel interested in providing this service for us and Lyn Pankratz looking into fundraising event to help provide funding for this position if possible. Will have a Fat Tuesday Spaghetti Dinner and proceeds to go toward this possible position.
- **Other business:** none

(Council Report continued on page 10 ...)



Sharing Your Gifts During Lent
March 9th—Ash Wednesday



Ushers

March 9 Bob & Barb Quamme
March 16
March 23 Morgan Ziegler
March 30 Morgan Ziegler

Liturgy Assistant

March 9 Barb Quamme

Lector

March 9
March 16
March 23
March 30 Barb Quamme

Accompanist

March 9
March 16
March 23
March 30

Lenten Suppers

(there will be suppers on April 6th and 13th on the April sign up sheet)

Wednesday March 9th (Ash Wednesday)

LouAnn Hanson & Wendy Boushey Chili and Chicken noodle soup

Wednesday March 16th

Dave & Lyn Pankratz Hot Dish

Wednesday March 23rd

Bob & Barb Quamme To be announced
The Delmores

Wednesday March 30th

The Holts and Scott Erickson Soup



Youth News ...

6th-7th Grade Confirmation...

Currently, we are working on the various petitions of the Lord's Prayer and try to intersperse book learning with movies and other methods of learning. During the weeks of Lent, I would like the 6-7th graders to join with the 9th grade afternoon class as together we explore the **Sacraments**. The Wednesday schedule during the six weeks of Lent will be the following:

- 4:00 - 5:30 : Confirmation
- 5:45 - 6:30 : Lenten supper
- 7:00 p.m. : Lenten worship

I would like all the Confirmation students to be in worship **at least 3 times** during Lent. They are still working on their sermon notes and this is a good opportunity for them.

8th-9th Grade Confirmation ...

Ninth graders will be continuing their regular schedule of Confirmation during the season of Lent, but will be having the 6-7th graders join them for these six weeks only. We will be exploring the Sacraments through a variety of means. **There is a service opportunity for all 8-9th graders to help serve and cleanup for our Fat Tuesday Spaghetti Feed on March 8th from 6 - 8 p.m. If you can help, let Pastor Sonja know.**

Help needed at the Food Shelf ...

On Saturday, March 26, the Food Shelf will need help unpacking and weighing food from the Boy Scout Food Drive. A hot dog BBQ will be provided for all who can help. Let Pastor Sonja know if you can help!

Calling all 9th - 12th Graders!

You are invited to attend the Northwestern Minnesota Synod Senior High School Youth Gathering

When? April 1 - 3, 2011 (Friday - Sunday)

Where? Young Life's Castaway Club- Detroit Lakes, MN

What? Speaker: Pastor Caleb Lucien from Pignon Haiti

Pr. Caleb Lucien is the Founder and National Director for Hosean International Ministries (HIM) out of Pignon, Haiti. He has done amazing work, not only with organizing relief for the region from the January 2010 earthquake, but working nationally on Hurricanes in the past as well. We are blessed that both he and his wife Debbie will be joining us and sharing how they have learned that God/Jesus is a solid rock.

Weekend Musical Guest: AGAPE **Music:** Luther Crest and Pathways Camps

Registration Cost: \$135.00

Includes: shirt, housing, and meals

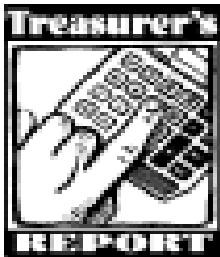
(snack on Friday, all meals on Saturday, and brunch on Sunday)

You need to register asap if you can go! Contact Pastor Sonja



February Council Report - Continued from pg. 7

- **Treasurer's Report:** we were short \$981.87 in January. **We need about \$1300 weekly just to get by.** Council praying and working on ways to increase fellowship, membership, and stewardship for FOG. Motion to accept report by George, 2nd Cheryl, all in favor.
 - * Insurance for FOG up \$300 this year. Bob will look into this and find out if there are options that are not needed, deductible increase, etc that could potentially decrease bill.
- **Committee Report:** Scott attended Christus Rex event with Pastor Sonja and looking at what we could do to support campus ministry.
- **Bulletin Statements:** Fat Tuesday dinner, weekly giving's, Big event
 - * **Next meeting: March 20th, Sunday @ 10:45am**
 - * **Lords prayer**
 - * **Motion to Adjourn:** George, 2nd Scott



Treasurer's Report

January Statistics

Average Attendance: 32

Income: \$ 5,296.77 Expenses: \$ 6,278.64

Deficit \$ 981.87

A note to the congregation: Thank you for the ways that you give of your time, talent and possessions for the building up of God's church. We are excited about 2011 and the ways that God is calling us to be church together this year. There is an on-going concern that even after some cuts to the budget for 2011, the budget is still well above the pledged giving for the coming year. **The Council has determined that for the ministry of Family of God to stay afloat, that a total weekly giving of at least \$1300.00 is needed to meet our monthly obligations.** The Council wants members to know this and to prayerfully consider if you might increase your gifts to the church in 2011, for the building up of God's church.

The Family of God Church Council



March 2011

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

		1	2	3	4 10:30 am Pastor Sonja at Good Samaritan 2 pm World Day of Prayer	5
<p>6 Transfiguration of our Lord</p> <p>8:30 am Alleluia Choir 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am Coffee</p>	<p>7 6:30 am Men's Group</p>	<p>8 6:00-8:00 pm "Fat Tuesday" Spaghetti Feed</p>	<p>9 Ash Wednesday</p> <p>4:00 pm Confirmation 5:45 pm Supper 7:00 pm Worship</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11 9:30 am Lutheran Women Today Bible Study</p>	<p>12</p>
<p>13 1st Sunday in Lent</p> <p>8:30 am Alleluia Choir 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am Coffee</p> <p>Daylight Savings - Spring ahead one hour</p>	<p>14 6:30 am. Men's Group 6:30 pm "Ladies Night Out" Labyrinth Prayer Walk</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16 4:00 pm Confirmation 5:45 pm Supper 7:00 pm Worship</p>	<p>17 St. Patrick's Day</p> 	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>
<p>20 2nd Sunday in Lent</p> <p>8:30 am Alleluia Choir 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am Coffee 10:45 am Council Meeting</p>	<p>21 6:30 am Men's Group</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23 4:00 pm Confirmation 5:45 pm Supper 7:00 pm Worship</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>
<p>27 3rd Sunday in Lent</p> <p>8:30 am Alleluia Choir 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am Coffee</p>	<p>28 6:30 am Men's Group 10:30 am Caregivers Support Group</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30 4:00 pm Confirmation 5:45 pm Supper 7:00 pm Worship</p>	<p>31</p>		



Family of God Lutheran Church
327 5th Avenue SE
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Phone: 218-773-1433

Staff email: pastorsonja@familyofgodlutheran.org
shellie@familyofgodlutheran.org

Come and worship with us!

Sunday Morning:

Alleluia Choir	8:30 a.m.
Worship with communion	9:30 a.m.

Wednesdays in Lent

Confirmation - all ages	4:00 p.m.
Worship with communion	7:00 p.m.



***The Beacon* is now electronic!**
**If you would like to begin receiving
your *Beacon* by email,
just let the church office know!**

Also:

Mark your calendars for the first annual

“Fat Tuesday Spaghetti Feed”

March 8th from 6 - 8 pm

A fundraiser to support the Family of God music program!