



St. Mark's Lutheran Church

# Messenger

Spokane, WA

March 2017

Vol.2017, No. 3

## MESSAGE FROM PASTOR ERIC

Promises...Promises...

How good are you at keeping your promises? If we are fortunate, over a span of a lifetime, we will make many promises to friends, family, our work, and even acquaintances. But there are a few promises that take center stage when we think about our Christian faith and life.

I have been thinking about marriage lately. This may have something to do with the fact that my daughter Naomi recently got engaged. It could have something to do with the fact that we just celebrated Valentine's Day. Mostly, I am thinking about it in the terms of promises made. One of the things that I will often say when I officiate at a wedding is, "What changes today are the promises that are made." They are promises before God, a community and the couple. I will often encourage a couple to return to the vows they make, reminding themselves of the commitment that they have made to one another. Post them by your bed so you will never forget these promises.

If you were baptized as an infant, parents and sponsors made some promises to you. Or maybe you have made these promises as a parent yourself or as a sponsor at a baptism. The promise is to help the baptized grow in the Christian faith and life. I wonder if we should put these promises on our refrigerators. If you want to see a list of what this entails, check out page 228 in our book of worship the next time you are in church.

But here's the deal. God has made a promise to us as well. That promise, given to us through the death and resurrection of Jesus, is that we will be "clothed with power from on high"

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## FAT TUESDAY IS FEBRUARY 28

This musical-and-sweet-treat event is right around the corner. Please consider bringing a dessert of your choice for our final indulgence before the start of Lent. These can be dropped off at the church **Monday or Tuesday, February 27 or 28.**

We can also use more help on set up, serving and clean up. Look for sign-up sheets in the narthex. Contact Loris Stupel at [fundsoups@comcast.net](mailto:fundsoups@comcast.net) or 448-9892 if you need more information.



## ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

March 1, 7:00 pm

## LENT AT ST. MARK'S

**Soup Suppers**, 6:00 pm, March 8 – April 5

**Holden Evening Prayer Lenten Worship**, 7:00 pm,  
March 8 – April 5.

### Wednesday Midweek Lenten Series

*Reflection topics for Wednesdays during Lent will reflect the teaching of the Adult Forums.*

March 8, "Our Covenant with God: The Ten Commandments"

March 15, "I Believe What?: The Creed"

March 22, "A Conversation with God: Lord's Prayer"

March 29, "It's About Death and Resurrection: Baptism"

April 5, "Am I Worthy?: Holy Communion"

*Child care available at all services.*

**PASTOR ERIC** *continued from page 1*

(Luke 24:49). What Jesus is talking about here is the gift of the Holy Spirit. Jesus says these words as he is about to ascend to heaven. What I take from these words is that while we are called to keep our promises, we are not left to our own devices to keep these promises. God is helping us, and is with us in the journey. That is what is promised to us by God.

Maybe we don't talk about what the Holy Spirit is up to enough. But the Holy Spirit is God with us today. So when you are doing your best to keep your promises and live a life that is faithful, remember that you are not alone. When the world seems to be going a different direction than you would have it go, remember you are not alone. I need to remind myself, as I want to remind you, that even our beloved St. Mark's is the Holy Spirit's church. And we are not alone!

As the world swirls around with seeming uncertainty may we take our promises with one another seriously. But even more so, may we trust that the promised gift of God's Spirit with us allows us to know that we are in good hands. God has promised never to abandon us. And for that we can live our lives confident that no matter what passes our way, our future is secure with God. As that old spiritual goes, God's never failed me yet!

See you in church,  
Pastor Eric

Save  
the date!

**SUMMER SERVICE TRIP** for Junior & Senior High  
Idaho Servant Adventure at Shoshone Base Camp  
**June 25-30, 2017**

### **LUTHERAN COMMUNITY SERVICES NW**

#### **8 Lakes Leg Aches Bike Ride 2017, August 5**

Join us for a scenic ride with a touch of the burn! Choose a leisurely 15- or 30-mile ride or a more challenging 45- or 75-mile trek. This is one of the best biking events in the Northwest!

Visit the LCSN website at [www.lcsnw.org/events](http://www.lcsnw.org/events) or call the office at (509)747-8224 for more information or to purchase/register for any events.

## **NOTE THIS!**

### **NEW MEMBER DINNERS & INQUIRERS CLASSES**

New Member dinners and Inquirer classes begin at the church **Sunday, March 5, at 5:00 pm**, and continue for three consecutive weeks.

Each week we have dinner together with one of our pastors, staff members and a few church members, followed by informational classes about the Lutheran faith and what we do at St. Mark's. We encourage our members to share this information with anyone who might benefit.

If you are considering becoming a member of St. Mark's Lutheran Church on **Sunday, March 26**, or are interested in more information, please call or email Lorin Stupel at 448-9892 or [fundsoups@comcast.net](mailto:fundsoups@comcast.net).

### **ADULT FORUM: REFORMATION 500**

As we celebrate the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation, our pastors will be focusing throughout the year on what continues to make Lutheranism relevant today. Adult Forum meets in the conference room **Sundays at 9:45 am**.

March 5: The Ten Commandments

March 12: The Creed

March 19: The Lord's Prayer

March 26: Baptism

April 2: Holy Communion

### **ST. ANN'S SUNDAY LUNCH**

St. Mark's volunteers will cook and serve lunch for low income and homeless folks at St. Ann's Catholic Church on **Sunday, March 12**. We help with meal prep, serving, and clean up, starting at **12:30 pm** until around 2:30 pm. Please email or phone Donna Evenson at [gdevenson@yahoo.com](mailto:gdevenson@yahoo.com) or 434-4930 if you are interested in participating. We are looking to expand our group of volunteers and would love to have you join us!

### **CHURCH COUNCIL**

St. Mark's Church Council will meet on **Monday, March 13, at 7:00 pm** in the conference room.

## MONTHLY MONEY TALK

Fund	January	2017 Operating Budget – Year to Date			
	Giving	Giving	Expenses	Budgeted	Net - YTD
<b>General</b>	\$ 52,092.71	\$ 52,092.71	\$ 63,114.35	\$ 69,506.58	\$ -11,021. 64
<b>Mortgage</b>	\$ 7079.50	\$ 7079.50	\$ 5857.00	\$ 5857.00	\$ 1222.50

Thanks to your giving in 2016, we ended the year up \$ 22,000. Being down \$ 11,000 in January is not atypical – it happens most years, especially after large Christmas giving.

In regard to cash flow, we are in good shape because we are starting the year with over \$ 70,000 in our general fund account, which has been accumulating over several years. This is a nice cushion to have as we consider the added expense of calling a third pastor.

Loris Stupel  
Financial Secretary  
747-6677  
finance@stmarks-spokane.org

### SOCIAL MINISTRY MEETING

Come to the next Social Ministry meeting and find out what's going on. Since this is a very active social ministry group it might be a great fit for you!

The next meeting is on **Sunday, March 19 at 12:00 noon** in the office. The plan is to meet every other month, so there will be no February meeting. If you have questions feel free to chat with one of the pastors.

### CHOCOLATE AND CHAMPAGNE GALA

*A Fun Evening Supporting a Serious Cause*

Join us for an elegant evening of chocolate, champagne, dinner, and auction to benefit the Sexual Assault & Family Trauma Center (SAFeT) and other vital programs of Lutheran Community Services Northwest.

The Chocolate & Champagne Gala is on **Saturday, April 22**, at the Historic Davenport Hotel. Indulge in decadent chocolate and champagne; enjoy an elegant meal, then “bid in the spirit of giving” at the live and silent auctions.

### WWL (Walking With the Light) AND CONFIRMATION

WWL has concluded for the winter season. If you have questions, please contact Susan Hagen or the church office at 747-6677.

### WEDNESDAY NIGHT YOUTH GROUP

Wednesday Night Youth Group will continue through Lent for Junior High and Senior High Youth. Meet at church at 6:00 for soup supper and youth group time. We will all go to Holden Evening Prayer together from 7-7:30. Be there!

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Deaths

Mary Pry

### Sympathy

The family of Billie Matte at the time of her death

The family of Jeanne Ratliff at the time of her death

The family of Lila Howard, mother of Sam Cassell, at the time of her death

The family of Jim Connelly, father of Mike Connelly, at the time of his death.

The family of Mary Pry at the time of her death



MARCH 2017

# YOUTH NEWS

SAINT MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

UPCOMING EVENTS...

Questions about Youth Programs at St. Marks?  
Call Susan Hagen  
747-6677 Church  
220-7250 Cell phone  
Or Calvin Moore  
844-6460 Cell phone  
Or by email at  
youth@stmarks-spokane.org

“So that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord’s holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses all knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of god.

Ephesians 3:17-19



**Wednesday Night  
Youth Group  
during Lent  
6:00 to 7:30**

Junior & Senior High

Come for soup and fellowship

Worship together at 7.

March 8th, 15th, 22nd, & 29th

**Junior & Senior High  
Save the Date: June 25th - 30th  
Idaho Servant Adventure!!!**



Service! Great Food! Zip-Line! Inner Tubing!  
Singing! Rock Climbing! Snow Cones!  
Join us on a summer adventure!

## Senior High

**SR. HIGH CAFÉ NIGHTS:**

**March 5th  
Trivia Night!**



**March 19th  
Party Games!**



**7 TO 9 PM**

# Calendar of Youth Events

March 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<b>1</b> Ash Wednesday	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> Sr. High Café Night 7-9 (Trivia)	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 6:00 pm Lenten Soup Supper	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> Jr. High Chiller 12-2	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 6:00 pm Lenten Soup Supper	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> Sr. High Café Night 7-9 (Party Games)	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 6:00 pm Lenten Soup Supper	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> Elementary Roller Valley 1-3:30 \$8	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> Game Night Jr. & Sr. High 6:00—8:00	<b>30</b>		

## Junior High Chiller

**March 12th 12-2 pm**

We will be playing a  
variety of fantastic board  
games! Bring friends!



## Elementary School Roller Valley Trip!!! March 26th 1:00-3:30

Join us for an afternoon  
of fun and skating!  
Cost: \$8



## THANK YOU



Thank you to all of the parent volunteers who helped set up and clean up on Wednesday nights. A special thank you to Jean Boucher and family for cooking for us all year long! WWL will be back in September! Thank you to Jane Summers for coordinating our volunteer efforts!



Thank you to all of our presenters this winter – Pastor Kate, Kent Hoffman, Michelle Klippert, Adam Shipman and Debbie Olson. Watch for future dates and topics!

### Costa Rica Mission Trip Thank You

A huge THANK YOU to everyone who so generously supported the group traveling this spring to Costa Rica. This trip would not be possible without your financial assistance and prayers! Thank you for willingly getting behind our Quest for Costa Rica project and Pancake Breakfast. We hope to represent St. Mark's well! This group will receive a blessing on Sunday, March 26 prior to their departure on March 31.

### Special Thanks to All Our Amazing Volunteers!

During a typical month at St. Mark's, we rely on over 120 volunteers. In months when we celebrate church holidays, that number is even higher. Each of you is critical to our weekend services, our weekday activities, and our community outreach.

Thank you for giving your time and your talents to ensure that the important work of our church continues and grows!

At St. Mark's, there are volunteer opportunities to fit every personality and every schedule. If you'd like to learn more about these opportunities, please contact Debbie Olson, the Volunteer Coordinator, at [volunteers@stmarks-spokane.org](mailto:volunteers@stmarks-spokane.org) or 714-2774.

Thank you!  
Debbie Olson  
Volunteer Coordinator

### To the Women of Mary Cares,

I was recently looking through the cards I'd received from your group and came upon the ones you sent after I broke my hip. It was so warming and special to read the separate notes you each wrote.

The cards you send for my birthdays mean a lot to me and I enjoy re-reading them. Thank you for your thoughts and prayers.

Lovingly in Christ,  
Marie Moe

**Thank you to Mary Cares** for their continued cards of encouragement.

Thanks,  
Nancy Plourde

**Thank you** Camille, Della, Jeannie, Jane, and Jeanne with the Mary Cares Group for the cards and dinners brought to my house during the recovery of my first knee replacement in September. I then had my second one replaced in December.

It has certainly been a long road to recovery for me. I also broke my humerus in May. No more surgeries for me, I hope and pray.

God bless you all for your kindness and work.

Bruce and Betsy Thompson

## Faith and Fellowship Groups

### SATURDAY EVENING POTLUCK

First Saturday, March 4, 6:30 pm

On the first Saturday of each month **you** are welcome to join us for a potluck immediately following the 5:30 service. Great food! Great fellowship! Bring your favorite dish (serving 8-10 people) and join this fun group!

### EAT, PRAY, LAUGH

First Tuesday, March 7, 7:00 pm

Questions: Pastor Kate, 747-6677

Eat, Pray, Laugh will meet in the parish house. **All women** are invited to this support group for conversation, laughter, prayer and refreshments.

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## GROUPS *continued from page 6*

### SCRIPTURE & COFFEE

Tuesdays March 7, 14, 21, 28 10:30 am

Questions: church office, 747-6677

Bible-based conversation in the conference room with Pastor Eric or Pastor Kate to study the Scripture texts for the week.

### SUNRISE, SAINTS & SINNERS

Second & Fourth Wednesday, March 8, 22, 6:30 am

Questions: Roger Chase, 838-1040

This men's group meets at The Chalet Restaurant on 30<sup>th</sup> and Grand Blvd. You'll have lots of laughs and crazy discussions about everything, all while having breakfast. **All men** are welcomed, saints or sinners!

### MOVIE DAY

Second Wednesday, March 8, 1:30 pm

Questions: Patti Berg or Dick Thiel, 443-9170

Join us in our conference room; popcorn will be provided. We will be viewing the 2015 movie, "TRUMBO". "In 1947 Dalton Trumbo (Academy Award Nominee Bryan Cranston) was Hollywood's top screenwriter until he and other artists were jailed and blacklisted for their political beliefs. TRUMBO recounts how Dalton used words and wit to win two Academy Awards and expose the absurdity and injustice of the blacklist, which entangled everyone from gossip columnist Hedda Hopper to John Wayne, Kirk Douglas and Otto Preminger."

### RUTH CIRCLE

Second Thursday, March 9, 10:00 am

**All women** are welcome to join us at the church for refreshments, very brief project discussion, and Bible study led by Pastor Kate or Pastor Eric.

### WALKING CIRCLE

Second Friday, March 10, 10:00 am

This group regularly meets on the second Friday of each month. In March the group will meet at St. Mark's to carpool to the Jundt Museum. Lunch will be at White Box Pies. **All women** are welcome!

### ST. MARK'S MEN'S GROUP

Second Tuesday, March 14, 7:30 pm

This group generally meets each month in the parish house with various speakers and topics. Watch your bulletin for more information regarding the selected speaker in March. Bring a refreshment of your choice.

### CANCER SPIRITUALITY GROUP

Third Sunday, March 19, 12:00 pm

This group reaches out to **those who have cancer or have had cancer, and for family members and friends**. The group will meet in the conference room with facilitator Kent Schaufelberger, manager of the Clinical Pastoral Education at Providence Sacred Heart Hospital. A salad luncheon is on the menu.

### EMPTY NESTERS

Sunday, March 19, 4:00 pm

Questions: Pastor Eric, 747-6677

This group is for parents who have young adults recently out of high school or who will be flying from the nest in the next year or two. Watch your bulletin for meeting location. Please bring an appetizer and drink of your choice to share.

### THEOLOGY ON TAP

Third Tuesday, March 21, 7:00 pm\*\*\*

Questions: Pastor Eric, 747-6677

\*\*\*Please note the monthly meeting day has changed!

Great conversation and fellowship with this **"30ish or younger"** group at Two Seven Public House in Lincoln Heights. One of our pastors will lead a discussion and buy a few appetizers to share.

### DIAKONIA GUILD

Fourth Tuesday, March 28, 2:00 pm

Diakonia is an auxiliary of Lutheran Community Services. The members meet monthly at various locations with a speaker from LCS. This month the group will meet at St. Luke Lutheran Church.

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## GROUPS *continued from page 7*

### BOOK GROUP

Last Wednesday, March 29, 7:00 am

St. Mark's Book Group meets monthly at Forza Coffee in Lincoln Heights. The book to be discussed in March is "The Rosie Project" by Graeme Simsion. **All book lovers** are welcome to any discussion!



### DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME

Be sure to put **Sunday, March 12**, on your calendar as the clock changes for Daylight Saving Time. Remember to spring forward one hour on Saturday night!

## WE INVITE YOU TO SHARE THE JOY THAT IS EASTER

*Join us as we experience through worship the events of Holy Week and Easter.*

### PALM SUNDAY, April 9

Holy Communion 8:30 & 10:45 am

### MAUNDY THURSDAY, April 13

Confessions, Holy Communion 7:00 pm

### GOOD FRIDAY, April 14

Reflection and Intercession 7:00 pm

### EASTER VIGIL, April 15

Service of Light, Baptism & Holy Communion  
7:00-8:30 pm (no 5:30 pm service)

### EASTER SUNDAY, April 16

Holy Communion 8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 am

Note changes in worship times for Easter Sunday.

*Child care available at all services.*

## ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

316 E. 24th Avenue  
Spokane, WA 99203

### SERVICES

Sunday 8:30 and 10:45 am  
Saturday 5:30 pm  
Nursery provided all services

Phone: (509) 747-6677

FAX: (509) 458-2757

### MESSENGER

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### OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday 9 am-noon, 1-4:00 pm  
(Friday 3:00 pm)

[office@stmarks-spokane.org](mailto:office@stmarks-spokane.org)

[WWW.STMARKS-SPOKANE.ORG](http://WWW.STMARKS-SPOKANE.ORG)

Newsletter submissions due in the  
church office by the 15th of the  
month prior to publication.

### PASTORS

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MISSION STATEMENT: To share the gospel through  
worship and service. To be an inclusive community for  
justice and peace among diverse peoples.