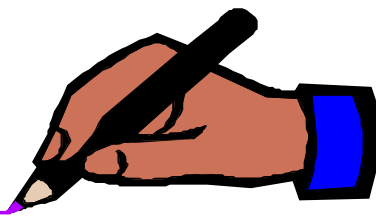


# FROM THE PASTOR



MUSTARD SEED  
CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
FEBRUARY 2018

Dear Friends in Christ,

We live in a broken world. I suppose that comes as no surprise to many of you. After all, we are reminded of the brokenness every single day when we turn on the television, open a magazine, or surf on the internet. The news is littered with the latest events of crime, war, terrorism, and tragedy. With the broadcast of the 2018 Olympics in Pyeongchang, South Korea, it was a welcomed break from the chaotic stories to which we have become uncomfortably accustomed. It is sad, isn't it, that the current state of affairs in our world today has become the norm?

Last evening, as I was convincing myself I should head to bed, a news broadcast came on the tv stating that there was a possible gun shooting threat for the next morning to take place at Gila Ridge High School. I immediately clicked on my cell phone and began looking at the various news reports, Yuma Union School District website, and various comments that were being made on Facebook to verify that I heard the news report correctly. As a parent, I was greatly concerned and a whirlwind of thoughts swirled in my mind. "Is this a sick joke? Am I getting ahead of myself? Should I call my wife who is at work? Is my mother still up...maybe she can give me some advice?" The questions just kept coming in rapid succession. I ended up waking my daughter up to ask her if she had heard anything about this threat, to which she said it was news to her. Internally, I was writhing with concern, worry, and fear. Should I keep the kids home from school in the morning? After speaking with my wife, we agreed that we would prefer to error on the side of caution. Soon after verifying the news reports, the school cancelled school for the day. That was a relief, to say the least. With the report that law enforcement deduced through their investigation that the threat was no longer valid, my family and I were put at ease. Nevertheless, the damage had been done.

I stayed home to be with my children since they were home from school as a result of the threat scare. The whole day, I couldn't help but think about the events from the night before. With the events of Ash Wednesday's mass shooting in Parkland, Florida still flooding the headlines in the news and on the internet, I was struggling with the idea that such an event could occur here in our community. As so many of you have shared with me, we never worried about someone bringing a gun to school to perpetrate such a horrendous act. I think we all agree, or at least I hope we all do, that our children shouldn't be afraid to go to school, neither should those who work in the education system. Our

schools should be a safe haven of learning for our youth. Unfortunately, as much as we desire that such events don't take place, this has become too common and frequent of a problem. This has become somewhat of the "norm" in our society. Gone are the days of just having fire drills. Now, our youth must be drilled how to respond "when" the unthinkable occurs. This makes me sad...and I know it saddens many others.

We live in a broken world. But, we do not live as though we have no hope. One of the things that I heard said from parents and students alike from Florida was that they didn't want prayers...they wanted action. Dear friends, I know that sometimes it feels as though our prayers go unanswered or that they are nothing more than murmured words that garner no merit. Nothing could be further from the truth. Our Lord hears ALL of our cries for help...AND...He answers every single prayer. Yes, action needs to take place to ensure the safety of our youth and any in the education system. At the same time, prayer is powerful and God ALWAYS answers our prayers in the way that is best for us...even when we disagree with His answer. This is why God, in His mercy and grace, sent His Son into this broken world to make right what mankind had spoiled through sin. Hanging on that cross, Jesus received into Himself ALL of our brokenness, saving us from our broken, sinful selves and assuring us of forgiveness, life, and salvation. Knowing that we have been saved, we have hope even in the midst of worry, concern, fear, helplessness, and despair. And, this hope does not disappoint as we are blessed to live every day of our earthly life in His grace with the assurance of eternal life.

Sometimes, it feels as though God is so distant...so far away...unaware of the very things that haunt our dreams. This, however, is not the case. As a dear winter visitor of our congregation has reminded me often, God is still in control. God is very aware of what happens. He knows what keeps us awake at night. He is not far away, but continues to remain steadfast and true...our ever-present help in trouble. God hears our prayers and He answers every last one of them, giving us what we need...what is best for us...even when, in the moment, it might not feel that way. Like so many others, I, too, need to be reminded of God's love and that when I am concerned, worried, fearful, or despairing, the cross of Jesus stands before me as the reminder of God's greatest act of love...a love that promises forgiveness...life...and salvation. Be strong in the Lord and know that God is still in control.

# Happy Birthday!

Shirley Nelson	03/02
Jeanette Albright	03/07
Charles Fraley	03/09
Jacob LeClerc	03/09
Hannah Kessler	03/10
Connie Wubbena	03/10
Brian Atchley	03/11
Mark Ford	03/11
Lisa Stewart	03/12
Patrick Stuebs	03/13
Chuck Liehe	03/23
Trina Elam	03/24
Al Rahn	03/28

# BAPTISM

Rosemary Suhr	03/01
Jordan Rutledge	03/03
Abby Rutledge	03/09
Connie Wubbena	03/10
Carolyn Macomber	03/13
Dylan MacFarlane	03/17
Leroy Pickett	03/18
Braeden Dames	03/22
Brian Atchley	03/23
Michael Kessler	03/23
Lily Green	03/24
Hannah Kessler	03/25
Jane Pray	03/25
Ella Stewart	03/26
Addison Hildestad	03/29

# Happy Anniversary

Katie & Byron Strom 03/31



# Galvary Lutheran Church Council Reports

## Board Meetings & Council Tuesday, March 13, 2018 @ 6PM

If you have a complaint or concern please attend the board meetings so the boards can address the issue.

2018 Contributions	
02/04/2018	\$4,583.00
02/11/2018	\$1,654.00
02/18/2018	\$2,867.25
02/25/2018	\$2,744.00
Office	\$2,730.58



Avg. \$ per week \$3,644.71

Contribution amount needed, per week is \$3,423.29 to meet current budget.

Year to date	\$28,183.25
Misc Income	\$ 1,279.67
Fund raiser	0.00
Avg. \$ per week (4weeks)	\$3,682.86
Short \$ per week	\$

## 2018 Contributions & Expenses FEBRUARY (UNRECONCILED)

GENERAL FUND	
Contributions	\$14,614.16
Misc Income	\$ -20.33
Expenses	<u>\$14,424.51</u>
Excess/Loss	\$ 169.32

### YEAR TO DATE

Contributions	\$ 28,183.25
Misc Income	\$ 1,279.67
Expenses	<u>\$ 28,897.43</u>
Excess/Loss	\$ 565.49

Yearly Short \$ per week \$

## Parking Lot Fund

Fund Total as of February 01 \$19,463.00

Contributions	\$ 606.27
Aluminum Cans	\$
Fund Total	\$20,069.27

Needed \$21,795.00 Large Parking lot

Needed \$ 5,640.00 Small back parking lot

**Short \$7,365.73**



## EASTER MORNING PANCAKE BREAKFAST

We will once again be bringing to you an Easter pancake breakfast courtesy of Donna Fairchild who is applying for a **Thrivent Action Team** seed money. She will gather the forces, and assign the cooks. A freewill offering will be taken for the Parking Lot.

Are you ready Mike & Mike and Randy & Randy. Wahaahaha.

Who's up for making some of Clara Euhus's famous buttermilk syrup. Let Janet know and she will give you the recipe. Janet says she will make a quart.



## LENT SERVICES & HOLY WEEK

Midweek worship services will continue Wednesday evenings at 7:00 PM with a potluck supper preceding the service at 6:00 PM. Won't you join me as together we journey with our Lord to His cross and empty tomb?

**March 7<sup>th</sup>:** Midweek Lent 3: "Out of Egypt: Through the Water"

*Exodus 14, Mark 1, Revelation 22*

**March 14<sup>th</sup>:** Midweek Lent 4: "Tree to Tree: The Tree of Life to the Cross"

*Genesis 2 and 3, Luke 23 and 24, Revelation 22*

**March 21<sup>st</sup>:** Midweek Lent 5: "Death to Resurrection: The Wilderness to the Promised Land"

*Genesis 3, Exodus 16 and 19, Acts 1, Revelation 19*

**Holy Week** there will be no meal. Services are at 7PM.

**March 29<sup>th</sup>:** Maundy Thursday: "Meal to Meal: The Passover to the Lord's Supper"

**March 30<sup>th</sup>:** Good Friday: "Sin-Bearer to Sin-Bearer: The Day of Atonement"

**Easter** Sunrise service is at 6AM, and 2nd Service is at 9AM. A Pancake Breakfast to raise money for the parking lot will be between services.

**April 1<sup>st</sup>:** Easter: "Welcome Home!"

*Genesis 3 and 37, Exodus 3 and 50, Mark 15 and 16, Revelation 7*

## MISSION BOARD NEWS

**Orphanage Outreach:** The Mission Board is reaching out to you to help children in need. It has been conveyed to one of our own that Pastor Jesus Jimenez in El Centro is trying to help 31 orphanages in Mexicali with clothing. He used to take used clothes across but rules have changed and the process is more complicated. Clothes must now be new. Someone in our congregation, who wishes to remain anonymous,

will match any monetary donations up to 350.00 to help these children. The money will be used to purchase clothes and the clothes will be taken to the children. A box is located in the parish hall where you can drop your donations. This will remain open until Sunday, March 19<sup>th</sup> for you to contribute.

2. **Movie Day:** On March 17<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 PM in the Parish Hall., there will be a showing of the movie "Wonder" The movie is about a young boy with a disfigured face that goes to school for the first time. Some light snacks and drinks will be available. You may also want to bring your favorite lawn chair so that you can watch the movie in comfort.

## LWML NEWS



We had a wonderful mug exchange on February 1<sup>st</sup>. Several ladies who had not previously attended an LWML meeting joined us for a salad luncheon. Was wonderful to have them and a great luncheon. Pastor and Gary Kaiser joined us. Five of the ladies had never attended a mug exchange and found out what it was about. Linda Kaiser led assisted by Linda Stange. We have been saying they have been held for over 25 years but records show the first one was on February 4, 1983, which means this was the 36<sup>th</sup>. Pat Martel was President at that time. We enjoy them and plan to continue them and urge more of you to attend.

I failed to report in the last Newsletter that the LWML gave \$500 from the cookie walk/vendors to the church treasury. By the time you read this, we will have had the rummage sale and hopefully will be able to contribute more.

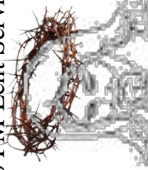

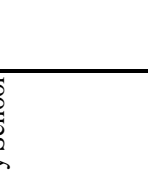
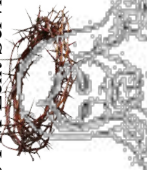

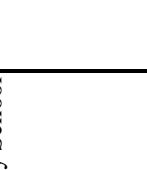


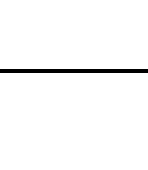
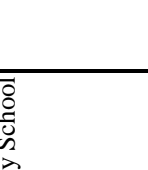
The March meeting will be on Thursday, March 1st at 7PM in the church fellowship hall. We will be assembling booklets with Bible verses and cheery thoughts to give to shut ins and for those in nursing homes. Please join us to work on a craft and for an evening of sociability with your fellow church ladies. And always remember: All women of the LCMS church are considered members of the LWML.

### HELP WANTED! COUNTERS NEEDED

The counters yearly calendar is nearly bare. For more information to sign up to be a counter please ask Larry & Ann Lee, or Donna Fairchild.

March 2018

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

			<p>1 09:30 AM-Bible Study/ Emerald Spg 07:00 PM-LWML meeting 07:00 PM-AWC Campus ministry</p>	<p>2 03:30 PM-Elders Meeting</p>	<p>3 07:00 AM-Bible Study/ Goldsborro</p>
<p>4 09:00 AM-Communion Service 10:30 AM-Sunday School</p>		<p>5 09:00 AM-Communion Service 10:30 AM-Sunday School</p>	<p>6 11:00 AM-Bible Study 06:00 PM-Potluck Dinner 07:00 PM-Lent Services</p> 	<p>7 11:00 AM-Bible Study 06:00 PM-Potluck Dinner 07:00 PM-Lent Services</p> 	<p>8 08:00 AM-DT 09:30 AM-Bible Study/ Emerald Spg 07:00 PM-AWC Campus ministry</p>  <p><a href="http://dlstewart.com">http://dlstewart.com</a></p>
<p>11 09:00 AM-Communion Service 10:30 AM-Sunday School</p>	<p>12 06:00 PM-Board meeting 07:00 PM-Council Meeting</p>	<p>13 06:00 PM-Board meeting 07:00 PM-Council Meeting</p> 	<p>14 11:00 AM-Bible Study 06:00 PM-Potluck Dinner 07:00 PM-Lent Services</p> 	<p>15 09:30 AM-Bible Study/ Emerald Spg 07:00 PM-AWC Campus ministry</p>	<p>16 09:00 AM-LWML Quilting</p>  <p><a href="http://dlstewart.com">http://dlstewart.com</a></p>
<p>18 09:00 AM-Matins Service 10:30 AM-Sunday School</p>	<p>19 09:00 AM-Matins Service 10:30 AM-Sunday School</p>	<p>20 11:00 AM-Bible Study 06:00 PM-Potluck Dinner 07:00 PM-Lent Services</p> 	<p>21 11:00 AM-Bible Study 06:00 PM-Potluck Dinner 07:00 PM-Lent Services</p> 	<p>22 09:30 AM-Bible Study/ Emerald Spg 07:00 PM-AWC Campus ministry</p>	<p>23 09:00 AM-LWML Quilting</p>  <p><a href="http://dlstewart.com">http://dlstewart.com</a></p>
<p>25 09:00 AM-Communion Service 10:30 AM-Sunday School</p>	<p>26 09:00 AM-Communion Service 10:30 AM-Sunday School</p>	<p>27 11:00 AM-Bible Study</p>	<p>28 11:00 AM-Bible Study</p>	<p>29 09:30 AM-Bible Study/ Emerald Spg 07:00 PM-Holy Thursday</p> 	<p>30 07:00 PM-Good Friday</p> 