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1/31/08

FEBRUARY CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 Confirmation Class 10:30 a.m.
3 Bible Study 9:45-10:15 a.m. Children's Sunday Sch 10:30-11:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal 10:30 Worship 11:00 a.m. Luther Bells 12:30 pm Compline 8:30 p.m.	4	5 Budget and Finance Meeting 7:30 p.m. AA St. John's Alumni 7:30 p.m.	6 Ash Wednesday Worship 8:00p.m. here with Westwood Hills Congregational AA Step Study 7:00 p.m.	7 Choir Rehearsal 7:45-9 p.m.	8	9 Men's Bible Breakfast at Mt Olive 8:00 a.m. Confirmation Class 10:30 a.m.
10 Bible Study 9:45-10:15 a.m. Children's Sunday Sch 10:30-11:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal 10:30 Worship 11:00 a.m. Luther Bells 12:30 pm Compline 8:30 p.m.	11	12 Church Council Meeting 7:30 p.m. AA St. John's Alumni 7:30 p.m.	13 AA Step Study 7:00 p.m.	14 Choir Rehearsal 7:45-9 p.m.	15	16 Confirmation Class 10:30 a.m.
17 Bible Study 9:45-10:15 a.m. Children's Sunday Sch 10:30-11:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal 10:30 Worship 11:00 a.m. Luther Bells 12:30 pm Compline 8:30 p.m.	18	19 AA St. John's Alumni 7:30 p.m.	20 AA Step Study 7:00 p.m.	21 Worship & Music 6:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal 7:45-9 p.m.	22	23 Confirmation Class 10:30 a.m.
24 Bible Study 9:45-10:15 a.m. Children's Sunday Sch 10:30-11:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal 10:30 Worship 11:00 a.m. Luther Bells 12:30 pm Compline 8:30 p.m.	25	26 Women's Bible Study 7:30 p.m. AA St. John's Alumni 7:30 p.m.	27 AA Step Study 7:00 p.m.	28 Choir Rehearsal 7:45-9 p.m.	29 FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS Jackie Savage Arne Foss Charles Peruchini John Dahl Lilli Lepp	February 04 February 06 February 09 February 12 February 17

The Master's Notes



February 2008

Lutheran Church of The Master
a Reconciling in Christ congregation
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 John Rollefson - Pastor

FROM THE PASTOR

LAMB OF GOD

Recently at worship on the Second Sunday after the Epiphany when we encountered John the Baptizer announce of Jesus, "Behold the Lamb of God" we sang a beautifully simple hymn new to us in our red hymnal:

*Your only Son, no sin to hide,
 But you have sent him from your side
 To walk upon this guilty sod
 And to become the Lamb of God.*

And then we joined in the refrain:
*O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God,
 I love the holy Lamb of God.
 O, wash me in your precious blood,
 My Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.*

It's hard to believe that in just a few days, on February 6th, we leave Christmas and Epiphany behind and already enter upon our 40-day pilgrimage to Holy Week and Easter. Lent is a time to prepare ourselves to remember how, as the hymn goes on in verse 2:

Your gift of love we crucified.

We laughed and scorned him as he died.

The humble king we named a fraud

And sacrificed the Lamb of God.

We'll gather to begin Lent in our sanctuary at 8 PM on the 6th with our full communion neighbors from Westwood Hills Congregational Church for the imposition of ashes and holy communion. We'll once again hear intoned over us those dreadful and at the same time ultimately hopeful words: "Remember you are dust and to dust you shall return." And we'll leave with the words of the prophet Isaiah we've heard so much from these past weeks dinning in our ears:

Is this not the fast I choose;

to loose the bonds of injustice,

to undo the thongs of the yoke,

to let the oppressed go free,

and to break every yoke?

Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,

and bring the homeless poor into your house...?

Lent is indeed that time of the church year during which we live into the confession of verse three of the hymn:

I was so lost, I should have died,

But you have brought me to your side

To be led by your staff and rod

And to be called a lamb of God.

Good Lent!

Pastor John

special music resources.

"Compline" includes gifts that are received by those who attend and/or wish to support our Sunday evening Compline services. Funds are used to pay the professional singers who constitute the Master's Consort

"Fair Exchange/Coffee" simply is the fund into which money goes and is expended for the Lutheran World Relief Coffee you buy. We do not aim to make money on these sales but simply to break even and support poor third world farmers in the process.

"Lutherans Concerned" is the support and advocacy group for glbt full inclusion in the church. Any gifts received for this purpose are sent off to their national office.

"Campus Ministry" included special gifts received during this last year's anniversary offering which was sent through our Synod to support campus ministry throughout the state of California.

"ELCA Hunger" is the fund that receives and sends on all gifts for the ELCA Hunger Appeal/Disaster Response which often includes our Thanksgiving offering.

"Memory Month" is a home-grown fund that receives special gifts between Mothers' Day and Fathers' Day each spring for a project designated by the Council. The 2007 Memory Month offerings were used to purchase and plant our three new orange trees as a part of our landscaping project.

The Sterling Fund is a fund established several years ago to honor former pastors Sterling Candow and Robert Sterling Richards and is used for special emergency needs identified by the pastor.

The Lutheran Church of the Master Foundation is the endowment fund of the congregation which was established to support the ministry of the congregation particularly in the areas of education and outreach by receiving memorials, wills and bequests left to the congregation. These are invested with a proportion of the fund's earnings and appreciation designated by its Board (the Executive Committee of the congregation) to be available to be granted by request of the Church Council. Members and friends of the congregation are strongly encouraged in their financial planning to include the LCM Foundation in their wills as a way of making a permanent gift in support of the ongoing ministry of LCM.

The Property Stewardship Account is the money received in the sale of the church's former parking lot located next to the Exxon station a block west down the alley. Money from this invested account was used for the demolition of our education building and creation of our newly landscaped parking lot, for special building and equipment repairs of the church, parsonage and grounds, and other special expenses. For example, the recent termite extermination project was paid from this account.

COMPLINE

Compline, our beautiful Sunday evening service of prayer at the close of the day continues every Sunday evening at 8:30 p.m. Led by LCM-er Deke Erdmann, Compline features the chants and anthems of the professional men's choir, The Master's Consort. Come, "Listen to the quiet!"

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Through Sunday, January 27th, the first four Sundays of the new fiscal year, we have received a total of \$14,273.00 in the regular offering. Please to pick up your 2008 offering envelopes if not have not yet done so.



FLOWER CHART

February 03 Open
February 10 Open
February 17 Open
February 24 Open

Please call the office to donate altar flowers - one vase is \$15 and both vases \$30.



OUR PRAYER LIST

Bill Ashton (cousin of Emily Jackson-Yano), **Jack and Doris Billingsley** (grandparents of Phil Haussmann), **The Family and Friends of Grace Bowers** (Grace, sister of Frances Carter, died on January 15, 2008), **Laura Brodian** (friend of Dave Shelton), **Dolores Brown** (friend of Peggy Anderson), **The Campbell Family** (friends of Dave Shelton), **Kathy Coleman** (friend of Dave Shelton), **Pat Driscoll** (mother of Julie Johnson), **Frances Illingworth** (friend of Dave Shelton), **Laurel Jones** (also known as Katie Luther), **Jonathan Kovac** (brother of Deborah Warren), **Judith Kubzansky**, **Summer Lager** (friend of Dave Shelton), **Donna Mae Taylor and her mother** (friends of Dave Shelton), **Pastor Gary Marshall**, **The Marshall Family** (friends of Dave Shelton), **Gisela Marx**, **Claudia Patton** (friend of Dave Shelton), **Millie Rojas**, **Lisa Ann Rollins** (friend of Dave Shelton), **Elizabeth Ross** (friend of Dave Shelton), **The Family and Friends of Rozsi Schweitzer** (Rozsi, aunt of Sarah Knickerbocker, died on January 27, 2008), **Jenny "Jace" Santos**, **Pastor Rich Schieber**, **Millian Silverberg** (friend of Jacob Ahn), **Uncle Paul** (Kaitlyn's friend's uncle), **Pastor Bill and Frances Willms**.

PRAYER LIST NOTE: Our prayer list is an important part of our congregation's prayer mission. We publish prayer requests for individuals and concerns here and in the weekly worship bulletin for everyone to refer to for their personal prayers. You are encouraged to continue to bring persons or concerns to worship in the intercessory petition of the prayer of the church.

DESIGNATED ACCOUNTS AND SPECIAL OFFERINGS

In the Annual Report of the Congregation that you received at our recent annual budget meeting, you may have noticed among the financial reports a category called "designated accounts." It may be helpful for you to know what these are so as to encourage you to be generous in your giving to these as well as in your regular offering.

"Friends of Music" is an ongoing account to which people give monetary gifts to support special and extraordinary musical offerings as an orchestra or