

The Parish Messenger

March 2022 Newsletter The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Our Savior Haddonfield, NJ





Ash Wednesday Worship Mar 2 @ Noon & 7:30; Ash & Dash Suspended Due to Covid

Ash Wednesday worship has long heralded the beginning of Lent. On March 2 at both Noon and 7:30PM The Lutheran Church of Our Savior will hold this worship service of confession, reflection, and the imposition of ashes to begin the Lenten journey toward Holy Week and Easter.

Unfortunately, the Covid pandemic still casts a pall over our lives and the prospect of people accepting the imposition of ashes may be perceived as threatening. Therefore, Pastor Wayne has suspended the imposition of ashes at the Westmont PATCO station for a second year and looks forward to reinstating the practice in 2023.

WHY DO WE OBSERVE ASH WEDNESDAY? A REFLECTION

"Remember you are dust, and to dust you shall return." These are the words spoken by the pastor as an ashen cross is smudged on one's brow. Like the words spoken at a funeral committal, ashes are a reminder of our mortality and finitude. They remind us we cannot escape death, no matter how hard we may try to keep it at arm's length or deny its reality in our lives.

Ashes remind us how at one time they were rubbed on one's skin to eliminate hard to remove dirt. Lent is also a time of cleansing and renewal. We pray along with the psalmist to "create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me", and are reminded of God's cleansing Spirit of renewal in our lives.

Finally, because the smudged cross is made with ashes mixed with oil, we are reminded of the mark with oil placed on our brow at baptism. We remember the promise we were given, "Child of God, you have been sealed with the Holy Spirit, and marked with the cross of Christ forever." In the waters of baptism we have been joined to both the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. And while the ashes remind us of our eventual death, the smudged cross reminds us death does not have the last word. As people "of the smudge" we are people who trust in the resurrection to new life it offers through faith in the risen Christ. In Lent we journey both toward the cross and the empty tomb. And this gives us hope.

Fastnacht Donuts Available March 1 in Kitchen 7:00AM – 4:00PM

Ever since Caryl Wallace first started ordering Haegele's Bakery Fastnacht donuts for the congregation's Fastnacht celebration, Our Savior's congregation has enjoyed these airy donuts that melt in your mouth. While the days of members getting on stage and providing funny skits, telling jokes, or sharing their talents have passed us by, the tradition of enjoying these treats remains. So before you begin your Lenten discipline of fasting on Ash Wednesday this year be sure to stop



by the kitchen at Our Savior for a Fastnacht donut for you and your family. They're light and practically melt in your mouth. We'll have the coffee on too so if you want to sit down and enjoy them with others either in the Parish Hall or up in the Parlor (we'll make coffee up there too) feel free to do so.



LCOS Lenten "Piggybanks" Return! Almsgiving Benefit Lutheran Disaster Response: \$910 Challenge Goal Set

Regardless of one's position on climate change and whether climate crisis is a more accurate moniker, the fact there is increasing frequency of weather related natural disasters is indisputable. As baptized disciples of our Lord we have promised to "serve the needs of all people, following the example of Jesus." Certainly this in-

cludes those experiencing devastation from natural disasters.

As such, this Lent we will direct our Lenten Piggybank Almsgivings to Lutheran Disaster Response toward the many various natural disasters that have already occurred including U.S. Wildfires, U.S. Tornadoes, and Hurricanes. Last year Our Savior gave \$182 total in LDR support (although individual members may have also given independently). Since there are five weeks in Lent the challenge goal has been set at \$910 (five times last year's donation).

Lenten Self-Denial Piggybanks will be given out on February 27 as Ash Wednesday begins Lent on March 2. Households are asked to put their change in the banks during Lent. If you are giving up something for Lent that has a cost, we ask you put that amount in the bank instead. New Jersey may not have the best weather, but we rarely experience natural disasters. This Lent, let us remember and contribute to the needs of the saints who suffer from the severe weather of wind, fire, and rain that it destroys homes and takes lives of loved ones.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Our Savior is a faith community that worships Jesus as our Lord, proclaims and shares God's Word, welcomes all people, serves human needs, and nurtures personal and spiritual growth through fellowship all to the glory of God.

"Striving to Be Welcoming" By Pastor Wayne Zschech

How do you define an event, establishment, or community as "welcoming"? Maybe an event is welcoming if they anticipate and accommodate the participants needs and ability to fully participate and enjoy the event. A welcoming establishment might provide guests with comfortable furnishings, soft lightings, and music that is relaxing. A welcoming community might be one that is just as interested in getting to know and accept people who are new to the community as the "regulars" or established members of the community.

Churches want to be a welcoming community. Congregation members like to believe they are a welcoming church as defined by the criteria stated above. If so, then how does Our Savior stack up as a welcoming church? On-street parking is a challenge but we do have an elevator for those that stairs are an issue. We provide bulletins to guide participants in following the worship, although some may still struggle to follow. I don't know anyone who would describe pews as comfortable, and not everyone enjoys singing to an organ. Yet, are easy parking, comfortable seating, mood lighting and contemporary music the main reason people choose to attend a church worship service?

People come to a church to connect to God and feel a sense of belonging with God's people. A welcoming church or congregation is a community of disciples that expresses love and acceptance as authentically as they have come to know and trust God's love and acceptance for them. Not everyone today grew up going to church. For some it's a new experience. It's a risk. They might even be thinking, "Will I be accepted for whom I am or be judged and rejected as I've experienced the world do so often in my life?" "I've heard stories of churches rejection of people like me. I know some churches might not accept a person like me. Is this church like those churches? Will I be welcomed here? Will I be accepted and feel a sense of belonging?"

The Justice and Peace Ministry Committee has created a Welcome Statement they hope will provide an initial answer to those questions. It will be posted prominently on our website for those who surf the internet for a congregation to risk attending. The statement reads.

"As a community of faith, we welcome all who are seeking God's love and grace. We welcome all because God welcomes all. We strive to be a community who welcomes people of every ability, age, ethnicity, race, culture, sexual orientation, socio-economic circumstance, or of anything that too often divides us. We welcome all without regard to where you are in your personal faith journey, whether you are a life-long Lutheran, or you come from another faith tradition, whether you are doubting, or you have no faith practice at all. Our unity is in Christ who embraces all. All are welcome. You are welcome.

Two points I find impactful in this statement. First, we recognize that God welcomes ALL people. Not just the people who look like us or who already are a part of our congregation. God welcomes all people, including those who aren't necessarily represented in our members rolls or pews currently. And because God welcomes all – we are called to welcome all – even when it may be awkward, or even uncomfortable.

Which leads to the second impact point. We aren't there yet. We are striving to be a community that is as comprehensively welcoming to all people as God is. Not everyone will be as welcoming toward every visitor and newcomer as someone else. We might say something that offends someone. We might not realize how avoiding the passing of the Peace to a newcomer in order to share it with a regular worshipper we know might be perceived as alienating. We might be the living embodiment of the bumper sticker, "Be Patient – God's Not Done With Me Yet." We are striving to be the welcoming community of faith God and Christ calls us to be from the font of new life in our Baptism.

The challenge for each of us from now on is this, how will I be welcoming toward others in this event, gathering, or worship? How will I by my actions and words convey God's love for those who I encounter? How will I convey an authentic expression to everyone I engage with that in this place, in this community of Christ, all are truly welcome? I pray we live into this Welcome Statement more and more each week when we gather to hear God's word of grace and experience the new life offered in worship, service, and fellowship together.



Coffee Hour Resumes April 3! Celebrate Pastor Wayne's 30th Ordination Anniversary!

Providing the April 1 start date of "Mask Optional" status throughout the church is able to go into effect, there will be a celebration of Pastor Wayne Zschech's 30th ordination anniversary at coffee hour from 9:00-10:30 to kick off the return of this fellowship opportunity. Pastor Wayne will provide the cake and invites everyone to join him in celebrating 30 years of serving as a minister of Word and Sacrament.



Please keep the following people in your prayers:

Charlotte Needham, Walt Haswell, John Drozdal, Clive Crosby, Yolanda Hales, Doris Rell, Arlene Stolarick, Dick Wilson, Randi

Gordon, Shirley Stambaugh, Caryl Wallace, Suzanne Ferguson, Rich DeBella, Ralph Volpe, Charles Bakes, Samantha, Jack Kain, Rosemary Dougherty, Peggy Miller, Caren Kaufman, Colin Lawlor, Amelia Marchese, Albert Kern, Stephen Dempsey, Michelle Mavis, John Rell, Kim, Lynn Hoppe Kaminski, Larry Thatcher, Scott Hansen, Abby Phelps, Bill Getty, Carmela Crawford, Jacob Berard, Keith Maull, Connie Verner, Judy Yerkes, Daniel Mandel, Susan Mazeika, Saunders Family, Ed Miller, Aasiyah Bey, Barbara Kerrane, Sandy Ferguson, Joanne Horn, Terry Mitchell, Ken Koehler, Bette Roncace, Nicholas Juele, Frank Marche, Beckham Williams, Ed Clark, Col. Fred C. Anderson, Fred Moffitt, Lily Gregorio, Julie Bartlett, Jimmy Lombardo, John Daggan, Betty Schurmann, Elva Mastrando, Ryan Roberts, Ann & Len Jones, Chuck Atkinson, Sophia Campos, William T family, David Wenck



Pantry

Our Pantry Families are still in need. *Please continue your generous monetary donations*. When you have the opportunity please continue to donate groceries to the grocery cart to help re-stock the Pantry.



- canned fruit, canned peas
- rice packets
- mac & cheese
- canned corn
- Carmed Com
- toilet paper



"A huge THANK YOU to the Kiwanis Club of Haddon for their extremely generous food donation to the Pantry. Their donations will go a long way in supporting our Pantry Families."



February Council Actions Synopsis

- Approved PCS to Reconfigure Church Wireless for Reliable Internet Throughout Building: In order to address the unreliable or weak internet service in certain parts of the building where it is needed most (Parish Hall, Sanctuary, Room 112) the Council approved the bid by PCS to install wireless remote access points on all three floors. The anticipated result is strong internet service throughout the building in order to use webbased resources and facilitate virtual ministry programs and events.
- Move to "Mask Optional" Status for Ministry and Outside Groups within the Building: With the Daily New Cases, Infection Rate, and Positive Test Rate numbers rapidly declining and Covid shots soon being approved by FDA for children under age five the Council agreed to move our Covid Protocol status to "Masks Optional" for all groups using the building beginning April 1. See article on page 6
- Director of Youth and Family Ministry Search: A revised job description has been drafted and will be posted with various youth ministry networks, denominational judicatories, and seminaries by the end of the month. Interviews are anticipated to begin some time in March.
- LCOS Welcome Statement: The Council approved the use of the "Welcome Statement" drafted by the Justice and Peace Ministry Committee to be posted on our website. The statement is intended to communicate our congregation's intention to strive in welcoming all people because God loves all people.

"Laudato Si: On Care of Our Common Home" – Topic of Joint Lenten Midweek Discussion with Christ the King RCC in Haddonfield

As we come out of "pandemic-mode" Our Savior and our neighbor down the street, Christ the King Roman Catholic Church, will engage in a joint discussion of Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si: On Care of Our Common Home* on Wednesday nights from 6:30-7:30 during Lent. Our Savior will host twice and Christ the King three times as the joint group covers the six chapters of the short book. The focus of the encyclical is our calling to care for creation and how Christians responsibly address our current climate change crisis. Copies will be available for purchase in the Church Office by March 2. The schedule, chapter topic, and location for the weekly Lenten Wednesday discussions are as follows:

March 9 Ch 1: What Is Happening to Our Common Home? Christ the King March 16 Ch 2: The Gospel of Creation Christ the King Ch 3: The Human Roots of the Ecological Crisis Our Savior March 23 March 30 Ch 4: Integral Ecology Our Savior April 6 Ch 5: Lines of Approach and Action Christ the King Ch 6: Ecological Education and Spirituality

We hope you will create some space in your Lenten journey to join the two congregations in discussing what is both an issue of Christian stewardship and care as well as ecological justice and peace. Due to remnant concerns over Covid transmission there will be no food served at the discussions. We look forward to seeing you on Wednesday nights in Lent.

"For the Beauty of the Earth" - Creating a Sustainable Lenten Practice

Where and how do you experience the presence of God? I find it in both the obvious places (a sun lit sanctuary with a full choir and congregation singing their hearts out, a dark church lit by candlelight as "Silent Night" is sung, and a cherub choir singing with gusto), as well as the maybe not as obvious ones. I have experienced God's presence in the music of a gentle creek running in the woods, walking barefoot through fields of grass, or the thunder of a big storm. We experience God in both the loud moments as well as the silent ones, in churches and in the great outdoors. As we have often had to hunker down inside in the last two years, I have cherished the moments when I got to be outside and enjoy the beauty of creation. We may often think of holy places being churches, but I hope that at times nature has taken your breath away and instilled holy awe in you at least as much if not more than buildings.

We often sing hymns or anthems about creation – "For the beauty of the Earth" comes to mind or "For the fruit of all creation" and celebrate God's creation of nature with our words, but are we really thanking God for creation with our hands and our works? If truly "we give Thee but Thine own," are we really taking care of what is God's own? This Lent (and beyond), I hope you will prayerfully consider what steps you can take to take care of the world that God has entrusted us. I have compiled a list of 40 things you can do – you can do one thing each day in Lent, or just make one or a few of them your Lenten practice. A few years ago I gave up single-use containers for food for Lent. It initially made grocery shopping and eating out a little challenging, but by the end of Lent, I had developed habits that stick to this day. Let me know what Lenten practice you will embrace this year and if you want any buddies with that endeavor!

You may be wondering why your music director wrote an article about sustainability instead of music, but I do believe wholeheartedly in living out what we sing instead of just singing empty words, so I hope that this Lent and beyond, you will sing and live "For the Beauty of the Earth!"

Pauline

40 Ways to Honor God's Creation During This Lent (and Every Day!)

1. Arrange a clothes swap with your friends or community 2. Carpool to work and/or church 3. SWITCH YOUR NEWSPAPER SUBSCRIPTION FROM PAPER TO DIGITAL 4. LEARN HOW TO MEND CLOTHES 5. SWITCH YOUR LIGHTBULBS TO LED 6. JOIN YOUR LOCAL BUY NOTHING OR FREECYCLE GROUPS 7. SWITCH TO REUSABLE COFFEE FILTERS 8. KEEP A REUSABLE CUP IN YOUR CAR TO USE AT COFFEE SHOPS 9 WATCH THE "THE TRUE COST" DOCUMENTARY TO EDUCATE YOURSELF ABOUT FAST FASHION 10. Donate your furniture to a ReStore Habitat For Humanity store 11. BUY CLOTHES FROM A THRIFT STORE 12. GIVE UP MEAT ONCE (OR MORE OFTEN) A WEEK 13. DONATE YOUR CLOTHES TO THRIFT STORE 14.. PRINT DOUBLE-SIDED/REUSE OLD PAPER 15. SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL FARMERS 16. EAT VEGETABLES AND FRUIT THAT ARE IN SEASON 17. WALK OR BIKE WHEN YOUR DESTINATION IS CLOSE ENOUGH TO DO SO 16.Find out if your trash is incinerated 17. Use a SodaStream to make your own seltzer 19. CARRY A BAG WITH YOU WHEN YOU GO ON WALKS TO CLEAN UP ANY TRASH YOU MAY SEE 20.. KEEP CANVAS BAGS IN YOUR CAR TO USE WHEN GROCERY SHOPPING 21. USE REUSABLE DIAPERS 22. KEEP TRACK OF YOUR LEFTOVERS AND MAKE TO FINISH THEM 23. TURN OFF ELECTRONICS WHEN NOT IN USE 24. PUT UNPACKAGED DRY GOODS OR CLEANING SUPPLIES INTO YOUR OWN CONTAINERS AT STORES LIKE MOM'S, THE REFILL MARKET, ETC. 25. OPT OUT OF YOUR PHYSICAL MESSENGER OR OTHER NEWSLETTERS AND READ THEM ONLINE 26. Grow your own vegetables at home or a community garden 27. Use cloth instead of paper napkins 28. REUSE WRAPPING PAPER AND GIFT BAGS 29. USE AND ADVOCATE FOR BETTER PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION 30. DONATE DRIED GOODS YOU WON'T USE TO A PANTRY INSTEAD OF THROWING THEM AWAY 31. CONSIDER GETTING SOLAR PANELS 32. BORROW BOOKS FROM THE LIBRARY INSTEAD OF BUYING THEM 33. USE A REUSABLE WATER BOTTLE 34. COMPOST YOUR FOOD SCRAPS 35. TAKE SHORTER SHOWERS 36. USE A DRYING RACK INSTEAD OF THE DRYER 37. USE RECYCLED TOILET PAPER 38. RECYCLE YOUR ELECTRONICS 39. USE ORGANIC CLEANING PRODUCTS 40. KEEP LEARNING HOW YOU CAN BE A BETTER STEWARD OF THIS PLANET!



My Holy Communion Book

Daniel Erlander

Two Options to Attend 1st Communion 1-Day Class for 2nd and 3rd Graders

Anyone with a child in either the Second or Third Grade is invited to participate in the First Holy Communion Instruction seminar to be held during Lent. There are two options to attend the three-hour class; Saturday, March 5, from 9:00-Noon; or Sunday, March 20 from 12:30-3:30. Participating children and parent need to contact Pastor Wayne Zschech (wzschech@yahoo.com) if they plan to attend to insure proper set up and sufficient supplies. We need to have an accurate count so please reply as soon as possible to the mailing that went out in February.



Last year, while I was an intern at Good Shepherd in King of Prussia, PA, I recall that right around Lent we hosted a drive-thru in which I had overheard two folks lamenting the return of quarantine mandates. When the feeling of despair and resignation had reached a boiling point, I heard one of the two say: "In class today, my yoga teacher shared with us, 'It's not going to last forever', and I thought, well, he's on to something." That stopped me for a second. Just before in the church I had been preaching the "good news"; and, for this disciple, there was good news in recalling the impermanence of things. It reminded me of something I had heard Stephen Jenkinson, a Canadian cultural thinker, say on occasion: "Here's the bad news: it's not going to last. And here's the good news: it's not going to last."

This recognition, this grief, this Lenten "remembering that you are dust, and to dust you shall return" is bad news because it is truly and utterly painful. The bad news is broken heartedness and bewilderment. "Bewilder", etymologically, means "to be set upon by the wild". That's grief – the way we are touched by the world beyond our control, the way we who are made of dust try-and-fail to manipulate the Holy Wind. The good news, which can only be arrived at amidst the pain and suffering of the experience of grief, is self-knowledge. Knowing our limitations, our susceptibility to selfdeception, knowing how interdependent we are with our family, friends, and neighbors, lands, waters, and animal life, knowing our values and priorities—what really matters in life.

Consider the tradition of "giving things up" for Lent. It is a paring down at the recognition that we are made from the Earth, that we are human. Giving things up, again, stems from this self-knowledge, stems from a prioritization of what is most valuable. I'm aware that this approach to Ash Wednesday and the Lenten season might be unfamiliar. I would actually expect it to be so. The earliest written epistle in our canon, the letter to the Thessalonians, spells out a distinction between "grieving" and "hoping". It seems to suggest that one cannot do both at the same time.

The ideas behind this qualification are many, but in short, there were Greek philosophical schools at the time of the evolution and formation of the Christian tradition from Jesus-following movement to world religion that treated grief as a disease to be cured rather than as a deep, important, and necessary insight into the nature of reality. One that could be relied upon as a basis for good living. Grief offers, as suggested above, self-knowledge, and yet it is also quite painful; so much so that—oftentimes—we would rather not feel it at all. It is profoundly distressing, difficult to face, and that is what those schools of Greek philosophy were addressing: the pain. In fact, they often use medical idioms in discussing grief, lamentation, or mourning. To care, they understood, was to cure through the medicines of reason-driven rhetoric—what we might refer to today as "platitudes".

We might wonder if that is really care. We might grant that grief causes a lack of ease but must it be classified as a disease? Instead, how might grief itself be medicine rather than requiring a cure? If so much of our Scriptures, and especially the New Testament, were written in a context that tried always to cure grief, how might we instead learn what grief has to teach us in the Word of Jesus? What are some of the passages or verses of Scripture that speak to this insight of grief? How do these resonate in our lives? These are only some of the questions that we will be wondering about together beginning on March 14th, at the seminar and Bible study on Grief in the Christian Tradition. Vicar Tom



My Father's House Thank you to the wonderful volunteers who continue to make the LCOS My Father's House Meals Ministry a success! We are always welcoming new volunteers to prepare simple meals for 16 of the women in MFH's substance abuse recovery program. If you are unable to deliver your meal, we will arrange for a volunteer to deliver it to MFH for you! We also need volunteers who can place of personal transformation drive the meals to Gloucester City when the meal maker isn't able to. Please contact Kathy and Amelia Wright at 856-325-0496 or kathyandgregwright@gmail.com for more information, or visit https://

www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0845a4af2ba31-myfathers to sign up. Dates are now available through the end of 2022. Snack Sacks for My Father's House My Father's House clients who aren't at the center on meal-delivery day would also appreciate a snack and a drink when they come in for their appointments, so we've started a "Snack Sacks" collection. If you would like to help, please assemble 24 brown lunch bags with one salty and one sweet non-perishable, presealed snack, and keep 24 bottled drinks (water, iced tea, gatorade, etc.) separate. Please feel free to add a note of encouragement, draw a picture, or decorate the bags with stickers!

Please email Amelia Wright at ameliaewright11@gmail.com with questions, or visit https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0f4eaaa82aa0f9cf8-snack to sign up. Thank you!

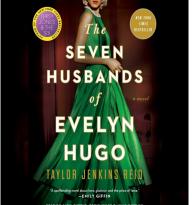


Mustard Seed Community Childcare at Our Savior Taking Summer & Fall Registrations

Mustard Seed Community Childcare is currently accepting applications for their Summer Camp program for children entering Kindergarten through those having completed Fifth Grade. Camp runs from June through August from 8:30-5:00 Monday through Friday with daily activities and a "travel camp" during

one of the weeks.

Applications for their Kindergarten Extended Day Program in the fall are also being accepted. There are already 59 students already enrolled with openings in both their morning and afternoon sessions. Dates and tuition details for both the Summer Camp and Kindergarten EDP can be found on their website (www.mustardseedccos.org) or contact their Director, Donna Marie Clancy, for more information (856-669-4491).



LCOS Book Club Spring Read

Our book club will be reading "The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo" by Taylor Jenkins Reid as our next book! We will meet Tuesday, March 8 at 6:30pm in Room 112 with the option to join via Zoom. Everyone is welcome! For any questions, contact Pauline.

Synopsis: Aging and reclusive Hollywood movie icon Evelyn Hugo is finally ready to tell the truth about her glamorous and scandalous life. But when she chooses unknown magazine reporter Monique Grant for the job, no one is more astounded than Monique herself. Why her? Why now? Monique is not exactly on top of the world. Her husband has left her, and her professional life is going nowhere. Regardless of why Evelyn has selected her to write her biography, Monique is determined to use this opportunity to jumpstart her career. Summoned to Evelyn's luxurious apartment, Monique listens in fascination as the actress tells her story. From making her way to Los Angeles in the 1950s to her decision to leave show business in the '80s, and, of course, the seven husbands along the way, Evelyn unspools a tale of

ruthless ambition, unexpected friendship, and a great forbidden love. Monique begins to feel a very real connection to the legendary star, but as Evelyn's story near its conclusion, it becomes clear that her life intersects with Monique's own in tragic and irreversible ways.

"Masks Optional" Policy Begins April 1 Pending Continued Pandemic Decline

At its February meeting the Council agreed to move our current pandemic masking protocol to move from mandatory within the building to "optional" starting April 1, 2022. This is largely since the spike in Omicron variant transmission has declined almost as rapidly as it rose, with levels of daily new cases and positive test rate being in the yellow range by the end of February and infection rate already in the green. Couple this with the Covid shot likely being approved around the same time (although when Council approved the plan they anticipated it being approved by end of February) and that likely over 90% of the congregation has had at least one Covid shot, if not also boosted, the risk to the congregation and community using the facility was very minimal. Here are the details in brief form.



MASKS: Optional regardless of vaccination status throughout the building except on the Third Floor during Mustard Seed Community Childcare operation hours. Those choosing to mask are free to do so and N95 and surgical masks will be available at the Wayne Avenue Main Entrance and at the usher stations in the sanctuary for those who prefer a mask recommended by the CDC.

SEATING IN WORSHIP: Two options

Between narthex "break" in the pews and the chancel: Masks will be optional. Pews will no longer be designated as "reserved" to insure social distancing.

Between narthex "break" and rear entrance: This will be a designated "Mask Only" area with "Reserved" pews for seating. This will provide those with transmission concerns a "safer" space to worship as all unmasked singers will be in front of them.

PROGRAM MINISTRY & OUTSIDE GROUPS: Masks will be optional for all participants, and each group is at liberty to define their own masking policy restrictions independently from Our Savior's optional policy. In other words while Our Savior's masking policy may be optional, groups may collectively opt a more strict policy, which participants are to abide by when participating in that group or activity.

COFFEE HOUR: Coffee Hour will officially resume in the Narthex on April 3. Pastor Wayne will be hosting it as that is the day he celebrates his 30th Anniversary of Ordination and invites the congregation to celebrate with him.



2022 Summer Mission Trip Interest Meeting March 20 @ 6:00 for Youth Age 16+

On Sunday night, March 20 at 6:00 there will be an interest meeting for both youth and parents on this year's Summer Mission Trip (SMT) to North Carolina. Any youth who will be 16 or older by July 9, 2022, along with his/her/their parents, is encouraged to attend this highly informational meeting about an event that has literally changed the lives of youth and adults participating. The dates for the SMT are scheduled for July 9-16 and the group looks forward to working again with the Forsyth Chapter of Habitat for Humanity in Winston-Salem North Carolina.

Over the last 15 years participants have framed floors, walls and roofs, installed siding and porch railings, built a handicap ramp, large sheds, painted doors and trim, landscaped, and even shingled a roofl. This chapter has its own lodge with bunk beds and shower facilities as well as a kitchen and lounge area for volunteers to hang out. They also have volunteers make or provide lunch and dinner so breakfast is the only meal we really have to make. We hold one or two fundraisers prior to departure in order to make the required \$175/participant donation to HFH that goes toward building materials as well as afford van rentals. The group is limited to 25 teens and five adults to insure sufficient work for the number of workers. Due to Covid all participants are required by Habitat for Humanity to provide proof of Covid vaccination in order to participate. As mentioned above, it is a life changing event for any and all who participate. Come out on Sunday night, March 20 at 6:00 p.m. and find out how.

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Memorial Gifts Fund Corner

Memorial Gift Board would like to once again highlight the Patterson-Plotzke Fund which provides scholarships to local Camden students through Urban Promise for higher education. Included in this newsletter are two letters from Scholarship recipients. Their letters say it all! What a wonderful ministry the Lutheran Church of Our Savior can provide due to the thoughtful gifts of Jean Patterson and Bernadine Plotzke in creating this fund to provide scholarship opportunities for Camden youth. Please continue to help this ministry grow with a gift or memorial to the Patterson-Plotzke fund. Any questions concerning this fund or any of the other funds administered by the Memorial Gift Board- please reach out to any member of the board.

To Church of Our Savior,

First and foremost, I'd like to express my gratitude to everyone who contributed to the scholarship that was awarded to me. Your contributions assisted me in paying the remaining balance of my school bill. It means a lot to me because I'm not working and can't help my mother with the bill. She hasn't been working as much because she is always travelling back and forth to New York to help her sister who is ill with her children, so it means a lot to me.

Although there were a few hiccups, my first semester of college was wonderful. I completed all of my courses online and received all A's. I'll be taking six classes in the upcoming spring semester, five of which will be online and one in person. I'm just looking forward to digging into all of my courses and learning more.

I'm pursuing my dream of becoming a nurse and assisting those in need. I chose to be a nurse because I can't picture myself doing anything else. I want to make a difference in people's lives. I simply enjoy learning new things and assisting others as if they were my own. I am still completing the necessary prerequisites in order to apply to the nursing program at Rowan College at Burlington County, but I am looking forward to my journey to become a nurse.

Thank you all again from the bottom of my heart for your assistance. You've all helped me get one step closer to my future success.

Sincerely, Hannah Delva

To: Ambassadors of Hope,

My experience with the fall semester was an eventful one, to say the least. I passed all five of my classes last semester (including my engineering class) even though it was a challenge with the Covid restrictions. With most of my classes being online, it was difficult for me to adapt. However, I managed to adapt quickly and was able to pass every class. There were only two classes that required me to come in person and with Covid, there were strict rules of students being far away from each other, including in labs.

Now that I'm almost heading into the spring semester, what I'm most looking forward to is learning more about engineering; mostly the building projects to use the skills I learned from the first engineering class. For spring break I plan to get a job and help with my house's income.

This scholarship means so much to me because it helps me and my family financially, especially with Covid around. Recently this month, my family found out that my mother has the virus and because of this she can't work her normal hours, resulting in less pay for her. The virus has taken a toll on her and my family as we're afraid that her health might deteriorate as the days pass by. I see this scholarship as a way to help my mom so she doesn't have to pay for the spring semester and can focus on herself while this is happening.

I want to say thank you to the Church of Our Savior who gave me the chance to help my family with this scholarship and to continue with my schooling.

Thank you, Brianna Louis



2022 Youth Sunday Planning Meeting March 20 @ 6:30 for Junior & Senior High Youth

Mother's Day, May 8, is also Youth Sunday where our youth and children will be the worship leaders for the day. Youth will serve as readers, liturgy leaders, and preacher for the day along with serving as ushers, greeters, and communion assistants. There will be an initial planning meeting on Sunday, March 20, at 6:30

p.m., following the Mission Trip Planning Meeting, in the sanctuary to begin planning who will do what in worship as well as learn how to lead worship effectively. Vicar Tom and Pastor Wayne will guide youth in what to do and Pauline Worusski will facilitate the musical component of worship for that day with children and youth. Join us!

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March 2022 Regular Events

SUNDAYS	MONDAYS	TUESDAYS	WEDNESDAYS	THURSDAYS	FRIDAYS	SATURDAYS
8:00 & 10:30 AM	10:00-3:00	10:30 AM Pastors'	9:30 AM - 11:00 AM	9:00 AM Fix-It Team		
Sanctuary Worship &	Haddonfield Adult Art	Pericope	Bible Discussion			
10:30 Facebook Live	Class	2:30 PM Staff	Zoom & in-person	11:00-1:00 Haddonfield Adult Art		
9:15 AM Reflection	5:30-8:00 PM	Meeting -	3:00 PM Tai Chi	Class		
Zoom & in-person	Children Song - Sanctuary		4:30-5:15 PM	6:45 PM Bell Choir		
6:30 PM Confirmation & Oasis	C-20 0-20 DM		Children Choir	8:00 PM Adult Choir		
d Oasis	6:30-8:30 PM Possibility Players -		5:15 PM Children	0.00 FW Addit Choil		
	PH		Bell Choir			
	7:30 PM – 9:00 PM					
	Bible Discussion Zoom & in-person					

March 2022 Special Events

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 Fastnacht Donuts 10:00 AM HGC 7:00 PM Social Ministry 7:00 PM Toastmasters	2 Ash Wednesday 12 noon & 7:30 PM Ash Wednesday Worship 5:45-7:15 Girl Scouts 8:30 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal	3 9:30 AM Mission Quilts	4	5 9:00 AM First Holy Communion Class
6 12:00 noon Confirmation Adult Huddle	7 8:00 – 6:00 Lifeline Screening	8 11:30 AM HGC 2:00-4:00 PM Local Vocal 5:00-6:30 Girl Scouts 7:00 Church Council 7:00 PM Toastmasters	9 10:00-12:00 AM Singing Angels- Sanctuary 6:30- 7:30 PM Lenten Discussion@Christ the King	10 Messenger Deadline 9:30 AM Mission Quilts	11	8:00-11:00 AM ChildrenSong
13 Daylight Savings Time Begins 12:00 noon First Holy Communion Class	14 Last Haddonfield Adult Art Class	15 7:00 PM Toastmasters	16 6:30- 7:30 PM Lenten Discussion@Christ the King	17 St. Patrick's Day Messenger Mailing Last Haddonfield Adult Art Class	18	19
20 6:00 Mission Trip Interest Mtg. 6:30 PM Youth Sunday Planning Meeting	21	22 12:00 noon EPIC 5:00-6:30 PM Girl Scouts	23 10:00-12:00 AM Singing Angels- Sanctuary 6:30- 7:30 PM Lenten Discussion@LCOS	24 Pastor off	25	26
27	28 6:30 PM Congregation Resources Mtg.	29	30 6:30- 7:30 PM Lenten Discussion@LCOS	31		•
Pauline off					1	

<u>LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOR: JANUARY 2022 FINANCIAL REPORT NARRATIVE</u>

(Note: Director of Youth & Family salary & benefits expense does not start until later in the year)

January Envelop Offering of \$43,122 was as anticipated. January Expenses were slightly higher than expected as a result

of higher than anticipated Administration expenses (Paper Supplies & Office Expenses). Therefore, it is early, but we are anticipating a small deficit by year end if these trends continue.

				YEAR TO		ESTIMAT-
FINANCIAL S	<u>UMMARY</u>	2022	JANUARY	DATE	YEAR END	\mathbf{ED}
						YE VARI-
		BUDGET	<u>2022</u>	<u>2022</u>	ESTIMATE	ANCE
REVENUE						
	Envelopes	418,000	43,122	43,122	418,000	0
	Other Income	<u>69,412</u>	<u>5,528</u>	<u>5,528</u>	<u>69,412</u>	<u>0</u>
	Total Revenue	487,412	48,650	48,650	487,412	0
EXPENSE						
	Salary & Benefits	310,312	23,523	23,523	310,312	0
	Property	54,600	5,851	5,851	54,600	0
	Administration	47,900	5,386	5,386	49,400	1,500
	Program Ministries	<u>74,600</u>	<u>5,402</u>	<u>5,402</u>	<u>74,600</u>	<u>0</u>
	Total Expense	487,412	40,162	40,162	488,912	1,500
INCOME	_	0	8,487	8,488	(1,500)	(1,500)

Counter Schedule for 2022

Confirmed.			Send again or Cal	I.						
NEED Counter!			Undeliverable.							
January 2022			A	Manday Cayatana				ecember 2022	1	
January 2022		4)	August 2022	Monday Counters			_			
.) Jeanne Grimes	jeannestangogrimes@gmail.com		Warren Reintzel	856-429-9252			-	eek#1 - 12/4/202		F.O
2) Millie King	mmking0105@gmail.com	_	Russ Barrett	backofficemgmt@aol.com			-	Sandy DeDonati		
•	sgfoskett@yahoo.com	3)	loyce Drew	iandidrew@gmail.com			-	John Laughlin	johnkayann	
) Tom Foskett	fosketttom@gmail.com	_	C				3)	Kayann Laughlir	<u>Jonnkayann</u>	i@msn.com
F. b 2022			September 2022					L U2		
February 2022			Week#1 - 9/4/2022					eek#2 - 12/11/20		
) Bill Cowan	bcowan@0712@gmail.com		1) Carol Maniaci	cwmaniaci@gmail.com				Sandy DeDonati		
) Laura Oakes	lauraoakes102848@gmail.com		2) Millie King	mmking0105@gmail.com	_			· ·	johnkayann	
) Spencer Cowan	spencer.e.cowan@gmail.com		3) NEED Counter!				3)	Kayann Laughlir	<u>johnkayann</u>	<u>ı@msn.com</u>
March 2022			Week#2 - 9/11/2022				W	eek#3 - 12/18/20	22	
) Eva Shaw	eslohboy@verizon.net		1) Carol Maniaci	cwmaniaci@gmail.com			1)	Sandy DeDonati	sandmakes	5@gmail.co
) Debbie Roncace	cronc@verizon.net		2) Millie King	mmking0105@gmail.com			2)	John Laughlin	johnkayann	@msn.com
) Stacey Shaw	slsmickmouse@verizon.net		B) NEED Counter!				3)	Kayann Laughlir	johnkayann	@msn.com
) Jeanette Jelonek	jeannettejlnk@yahoo.com									
			Week#3 - 9/18/2022				W	eek#4 - 12/25/20	22	
April 2022			1) Carol Maniaci	cwmaniaci@gmail.com			1)	Sandy DeDonati	sandmakes	5@gmail.co
) Barb Standke	barjon302@gmail.com		2) Millie King	mmking0105@gmail.com			2)	NEED Counter!		
) Sandy DeDonatis	sandmakes5@gmail.com		B) Joanne Johnson	jppjjohnson@gmail.com			3)	NEED Counter!		
) Jeanne Grimes	jeannestangogrimes@gmail.com									
) NEED Counter!			Week#4 - 9/24/2022				W	eek#5 - 12/31/20	22	
			Carol Maniaci	cwmaniaci@gmail.com			1)	Sandy DeDonati	sandmakes	5@gmail.co
May 2022			2) Millie King	mmking0105@gmail.com			2)	NEED Counter!		
) Judy Caravelli	2006jac@comcast.net		3) Joanne Johnson	jppjjohnson@gmail.com			3)	NEED Counter!		
NEED Counter!										
NEED Counter!			October 2022							
			1) Julie Frederick	bobandjulie@comcast.net						
June 2022			2) Karin LaBarge	klabarge160@gmail.com						
) Shannon Foskett	sgfoskett@yahoo.com		3) Judy Caravelli	2006jac@comcast.net						
) Tom Foskett	fosketttom@gmail.com									
) Janie Braccio	janiebraccio@yahoo.com		November 2022							
			1) Kathy Simpkins	rohrertowers2@comcast.ne	et					
July 2022			2) Bob Mirabello	rbmira@comcast.net						
) Joanne Johnson	jppjjohnson@gmail.com		•	rbmira@comcast.net						
) Nancy Gulick	nvgulick@gmail.com									
) Jane Evans	jbenjee@msn.com									
				_						
				N	viarch	20	122	ž Me	ssenger	page



EPIC

The EPIC (Experienced Persons in Community) Group looks forward to seeing your smiling faces whenever you can join us; we gather again on Tuesday, March 22 at noon for another enjoyable lunch and afternoon of cards, bingo, Mexican Train, and fellowship. Each month we will meet on the 4th Tuesday. Invite your friends of all ages to join us, the more the merrier! The schedule for the rest of the year is: **March 22, April 26, May 24, June 28**It would be helpful for me if you would RSVP a week before the scheduled date so that I can purchase enough food and drinks for everyone. **Peg Hartmann: 856-745-2459** - mamahart16@comcast.net

We are asking each person to make a one-time donation for the year, up to June of 2022, which will help defray the costs of the lunches. Members of Our Savior are asked to pay \$25 and non-members \$35. This can be paid by a check made out to "LCOS" and marked EPIC Group and mailed to the above address or by bringing a check or cash (exact amount please) with you when you attend for the first time. We hope the cost will not be a burden to you but if it is please talk to me. We also hope you will continue to contribute to our Pantry which helps several families in need in our area. Our Book Cart will be available for you to peruse and if you have books to contribute, we will welcome them.



Stewards of God's Love: This Year God's People Turn Outward

Most people think that stewardship is about money...and sometimes it is. They think it only matters in the fall, yet here it is March. Why bring up stewardship now? The answer is that stewardship matters *year-round*, and it's only rarely about money. Stewardship is *always* about recognizing God's abundant love and sharing it on His behalf with our neighbors.

Over the past two years at Our Savior we've looked at how God comes down to us in love. We've looked inward to discern how God is calling us to share his bountiful gifts in His name to help others. Those are the first two steps in making the sign of the cross—placing our hands on our foreheads where the baptismal waters made their marks, then bringing our hands down to our hearts and keeping them there to feel God's love.

This year we take that next step in making the sign of the cross and move our hands out to the world. We'll be looking at the many ways God is calling us to love Him and our neighbors, not just with words, but with our actions. When we share with our neighbors the abundance that God has entrusted to our care, we not only love our neighbor, but we love God

In Matthew 25:31-46, Jesus tells us that when we feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, welcome the stranger, clothe the naked, care for the sick and visit the imprisoned, we are doing it to Jesus. "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me."

The Our Savior congregation has a long history of sharing our bounty with others and bringing God's love into the world. Sometimes we give our gifts to the church, and Our Savior reaches out on our behalf, but there also are ways we can share God's love on our own. Throughout 2022 Congregational Resources will be highlighting ways that we as individuals and in small groups can help our neighbors. Please watch for those announcements in the Messenger and in LCOS congregation-wide emails. Join us in being stewards of God's love!

Congregational Support: January 2022

<u>Year</u>	Average YTD Attendance	Total General Fund Offerings
2020	185	\$ 38,641
2021	183*	\$ 41,500
2022	174*	\$ 43 122

* Since March 2021, when church reopened, the in-person attendance at all services is added to the livestream Face-Book numbers to get the total number in attendance for any given week. Livestream attendance is calculated using a formula provided by the ELCA: number of one-minute views on livestream multiplied by 2 to get the number of people worshipping by livestream.

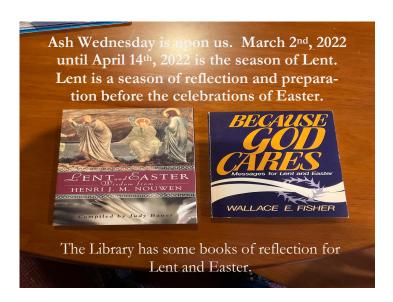
Thank You for Being Stewards of God's Love

Thank you to all those who are mailing in their offering envelopes or giving electronically. In these difficult times, Our Savior's faithful givers are sharing their offerings so that others may know God's love. We may be socially distant, but our faith and commitment continue to be at work in the world.



The Spotlight is on You, Beth Hill!

Beth has been a member of LCOS for almost 56 years. During that time she has been in the Adult Choir, Adult Bell Choir, Altar Guild, Library Ladies, Sisters~In~Spirit, EPIC and I'm sure many other groups as a youth! Beth has continued our Worship in the Home Materials for our homebound members which she sends monthly along with cards and letters. She helps and has helped care for our senior members. Beth is a Crossing Guard for the Haddonfield school system and she helps with the Mustard Seed kids, too! She is always willing to lend a hand or give a hug, a great big bear hug! We are so fortunate and blessed to have Beth in our congregation! Thank you for all you do for us and the community!



Bengals Win Both Souper Bowl & ELCA World Hunger Big Game Synod Challenge!

While the actual Super Bowl wasn't a blowout and was s omewhat of a nail-biter until the Rams won in the last two minutes the Bengals crushed them when it came to donations to address hunger. In the LCOS Souper Bowl Challenge the congregation donated \$367 for the Bengals and \$87 for the Rams. When we contributed that to the ELCA World Hunger Big Game Synod Challenge the Bengals still were favored over the Rams (\$8,309 to \$3,491) with an additional \$1,875 given toward Team Gifts. Given the lower attendance than usual due to Covid and weather the nearly \$500 donated toward World Hunger is a clear sign of our congregation's pas sion and generosity in addressing hunger in our world. THANK YOU!

Toothpaste and Toothbrush Collection for Caring Hearts

Social Ministry Committee assists Caring Hearts families that are seen by Cooper Hospital's Pediatric Infectious Disease Practice. We usually support the seasonal holiday parties by providing baked goods and refreshments as well as a collected item (underwear, baby wipes, socks, deodorant, and gifts from Advent Giving Tree) and provide assistance at these parties. We also support Caring Hearts with a monetary donation in March and a special Christmas donation. All in-person events were cancelled in 2020 and 2021 due to the coronavirus pandemic. So far, no in-person events are planned in 2022. LCOS has been asked to collect full size toothpaste (not the little sample toothpaste) and toothbrushes, at least 2 dozen of each. A collection box for Caring Hearts is available on the shelves outside Parish Hall for your donations. Deadline is Sunday April 24th. Contact Betsy Kuehn or Eva Shaw for more information.

Easter Lily Memorials

Each year the altar is decorated with lilies for the Easter Services. If you would like to donate a lily in memory of a loved one, or in honor of a special occasion, please fill out the form below and enclose a check for \$25, made payable to "LCOS Altar Guild". The lilies are delivered to our homebound members and nursing home residents on Monday, April 18. The deadline for ordering is Sunday, April 10. In memory of



In honor of		
Relationship of donor to memorialized one		

Please return to the church office no later than Sunday, April 10.

Environmental Happenings

God's People And God's Planet And God's Animals



Maple Sugaring

Sugaring is the art of making maple syrup from the sap of Maple trees. Sugaring season typically runs from around mid-February to early April. Cool nights change the Maple tree's internal pressure and sap escapes through natural leaks or man-made taps. Sap is collected from the tree and boiled to evaporate the water. You may want to ask ... does sugaring harm the trees?? The Maple trees are not harmed by being mindful not to go further than 2 ½ inches into the tree. If the case that the tap goes in more than 2 ½ inches it is possible to hit the heart.

Be The CHANGE God's World Needs!!

The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Our Savior

204 Wayne Ave., Haddonfield, NJ 08033 (856)429-5122 (voice) (856)429-7245(fax) www.oursaviorhaddonfield.org

Worship 9:15 AM Zoom Reflections, & 10:30 AM Facebook Live

Сни	RCH COUNCIL					
John Drozdal	Vice President/P	Personnel	john.dı	ozdal@gmail.com	612-804-7324	
Paul Knauer	Treasurer		prknauer@gmail.com		856-427-6595	
Shannon Foskett	Financial Secretary		sgfosk	ett@yahoo.com	856-904-1828	
Ann Querns	Secretary		ahodul	ik@gmail.com	856-905-5115	
Rich Morris	Christian Education		richard	morris2073@gmail.com	856-429-1175	
Barbara Standke	Communications		barjon.	302@gmail.com	267-474-3566	
Scott Goldthorp	Church Property		goldthe	orp@gmail.com	267-218-4683	
Lourdes Starr-Demers	Social Ministry		lourdes	s.starr.demers@gmail.com	215-219-4444	
Jean Bridges	Outreach		ijeaniel	o@yahoo.com	609-634-0993	
Millie King	Congregation Resources		mmking0105@gmail.com		856-669-7794	
Pam Cowan	Fellowship Together		bcowan0712@gmail.com		856-332-7519	
Cathe Bare	Worship & Music		b45away@gmail.com		609-238-6527	
Rachael Simpkins	Youth Representative		rachaelsimpkins1924@gmail.com		856-287-0525	
Memorial Gifts Board						
Nancy Gulick	President		nvgulick@gmail.com		609-238-0184	
Karin LaBarge	Financial Secretary		klabarge160@gmail.com		856-428-4709	
Jeanette Jones	Secretary		gljjjones@comcast. Net		856-795-5294	
Danielle Deery	•		danielle	edeery@gmail.com	317-414-7906	
Gary Visconti			volsco	nti@yahoo.com	856-419-8235	
Bobbi Newsham			bcn71(@aol.com	609-828-5244	
Rich Windle			r.windl	e@southwarkmetal.com	215-416-7417	
Paul Knauer	Ex-officio		paul_knauer@pmagroup.com		856-427-6595	
John Drozdal	Vice President/P	Personnel	john.drozdal@gmail.com		609-238-0184	
		STAFF AND V	OLUNT	EER LEADERS		
The Rev. Wayne Zsch	ech, D. Min	Pastor		wzschech@yahoo.com	856-429-7851	
Vicar Tom Natalini	,	Intern		tnatalini@uls.edu	484-682-9320	
Sandy DeDonatis		Parish Adminis	trator	lcossandy@gmail.com	856-429-5122	

Director of Music

Nursery Attendant

Custodian/Sexton

Communications Tech.

Bookkeeper

Altar Guild

pworusski@gmail.com

dlrich1@msn.com

eslohboy@verizon.net

robertdemp@verizon.net

nicholasheinze1@outlook.com

404-931-2317

856-246-8543

856-616-0052

856-365-5392

856-577-1149

856-428-9434

Pauline Worusski

Shirley Clinkscales

Bob Dempsey

Nick Heinze

Don Richards

Eva Shaw

The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Our Savior 204 Wayne Avenue Corner of Wood Lane and Wayne Avenue Haddonfield, NJ 08033

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March 2022 Messenger

Time Sensitive Material Enclosed Mailed February 17, 2022

Address Service Requested







Mar 1	Marissa Rodriguez
Mar 2	Joseph DiDario
Mar 2	Pamela DiDario
Mar 2	Inge Lawyer
Mar 2	Laura Schaffner
Mar 3	Tom Foskett
Mar 3	Asher Lamprey
Mar 3	Savannah Remphrey
Mar 4	Joey Baldwin
Mar 4	Randy Johnson
Mar 5	Randi Gordon
Mar 5	Jackie Mokoid
Mar 5	Cameron Rivera
Mar 6	John Simpkins
Mar 8	Sarah Fetter
Mar 8	Alissa Ryan
Mar 9	Alexander Fabian
Mar 9	Caitlin Schlight
Mar 10	Scott Fogelson
Mar 10	George Parker
Mar 10	Lourdes Starr-Demers
Mar 10	Susan Tharp

Mar 11	Carly Brown
Mar 11	Nancy Gulick
Mar 15	Valerie Brown
Mar 15	Bobbi Gonzalez
Mar 18	Tom Angstadt
Mar 18	Tracy Gilman
Mar 18	Eloise Oakes
Mar 18	Shirley Webb
Mar 19	Ed Rodriguez
Mar 19	Erin Ryan
Mar 20	Wendy Schlight
Mar 21	John Drozdal
Mar 21	Andy Goldthorp
Mar 21	Reilly Rhodes
Mar 21	Emerson Riley
Mar 22	Tad Fetter
Mar 22	Earl Van Cleve
Mar 22	Bennett Wright
Mar 23	Craig Haswell
Mar 23	Logan Sehdev

Mar 24	William Gensel
Mar 24	Jeffrey Mirabello
Mar 25	Kathy Shone
Mar 26	Jonathan Baxter
Mar 26	Liliana Floyd
Mar 26	Michele Sehdev
Mar 26	Gina Villecco
Mar 27	Spencer Cowan
Mar 27	Samantha Wentz
Mar 28	Stephen Boyle
Mar 28	Taylor Sehdev
Mar 28	Jacqueline Stillwell
Mar 29	James Vassallo
Mar 29	Kate Zschech
Mar 30	Samuel Lee
Mar 30	Shannon Ray
Mar 30	Karl Stauss
Mar 31	Femi Adejuwon
Mar 31	Matthew Bergamesco
Mar 31	David Graeber
Mar 31	Hailey Melcher
Mar 31	William Neveling