

PRINTS *of* PEACE

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FEBRUARY 2018



LENTEN WORSHIP

**Our Ash Wednesday Service will be on
February 14th at 7:00 p.m.**

**Midweek Lenten Worship services, led by Pastor Fosse,
will be on the following Wednesdays:**

**2/21, 2/28, 3/7, 3/14 and 3/21
(Please see themes below)**

All services will be at 7:00 p.m.

The number forty is used 146 times in scripture. This year during the forty days of Lent we will use the Wednesday evening service (7:00 p.m.) to examine several of the times that we read of people being tested and prepared for forty days or years. We are going to do this as and aid in our own forty day period of preparation for the feast of Easter.

Now if you just look at a calendar and count you will see that Lent is longer than forty days but if you remove the Sundays between Ash Wednesday and Easter you will arrive at the number forty. Sundays are removed from Lent because they are always celebrations of the resurrection of our Lord.

The Wednesday themes are:

- 1: February 21: Rain fell for forty days and nights during the flood, Genesis 7.**
- 2: February 28: The Hebrew people lived in the desert for forty years, and the spies were sent into Canaan for forty days, Numbers 13 and 32.**
- 3: March 7: Moses was on Mount Sinai for three periods of forty days, Deuteronomy 9 and 10.**
- 4: March 14: Elijah walked for forty days and nights to meet God on Mount Horeb, 1 Kings 19.**
- 5: March 21: Jesus was tested in the wilderness for forty days, Matthew 4:1-11.**

Education Corner



Sunday School had a few changes this year. Families and staff are now accimated and we have students from Pre-K thru 8th grade Confirmants now in session.

Our 'Maker Madness Halloween' Party was Slime-Tastic! Members dressed up, 'snapped' pictures, experimented, laughed loudly, ate snacks, played games, and had a fun filled Fall day of fellowship.

November was busy with Thanksgiving baskets, and collecting donations for our Food pantry and Joshua House. Sunday School collected 504 clothing and food items for this program. Our Halloween and Charlie Brown Thanksgiving events also collected for our food pantry this fall.

Holy First Communion: Congratulations to our 7th and 8th grade confirmation classes.

Charlie Brown Thanksgiving - fellowship, prayer, movies, and s'mores at the fire - Fun for all ages!

Outreach: Two teen confirmants worked a fundraising table this December to raise monies for a local young lady with bone cancer.

Christmas Play - awww... 'Our Memories of Christmas' was shared by the Sunday School students. We also had a craft activity this day and of course a 'Birthday Party for Jesus'!

Bake Sales: these continue every month; this is our main form of raising funds for Sunday School. Please be sure to look for your class's dates to provide as a student. As a member of our congregation - buy these sweets each month to help support our programs.

Bible Studies: Education-not just for kids! We have adult Bible Studies each week. Please see Pastor Fosse or Ken French for more information on schedules and topics.

Look for these this Spring:

- Bible Studies
- Bake Sales
- Outreach project
- A great district Youth Event
- Pancake Breakfast & Easter Egg Hunt
- 'Fly Into Spring' event
- Confirmation of our 8th graders



Speak Up!
Share your ideas,
time and talents. See
Dani Romano to plan
an event or help at
one! 908 692-4686

Stewardship Newsletter Article for February 2018

(Reprinted from the LCMS website)

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

“I am not commanding you, but I want to test the sincerity of your love by comparing it with the earnestness of others. For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich” (2 Corinthians 8:8-9).

Without commands or even arm-twisting, St. Paul encourages, even challenges, the Church in Corinth to demonstrate the sincerity of their faith by their generosity in giving. He does this because giving generously is a gift of the Spirit given to us through the Gospel.

St. Paul wrote: “But just as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in your love for us—see that you also excel in this grace of giving” (2 Corinthians 8:7). In other words, just as we grow in faith and speech and knowledge of eternal things by the Holy Spirit through the Word of God, so also do we grow in giving from the same Spirit through the same Word.

The problem is that the grace of generosity often grows cold in us. It’s not so much that we stop giving, but we don’t put it first. We treat it like all the other bills that must be paid. It becomes a chore, just one more thing to check off a list of things to do. That empties it of its spiritual power and robs us of the joy that Christ and the Scriptures assign to it.

On top of that, since this generosity is linked to faith and knowledge of divine things, a lack of excelling in giving is a sure sign that our faith and knowledge of God are under attack as well.

Thus St. Paul points to the foundation of generosity: the generosity of Christ Himself. Even though He was rich, He became poor so that we who are poor might become rich. Thus, the incarnation, suffering, and death of our Lord on the cross is the reason, source, and driving force for our generosity in giving to the church.

And since Christ who was rich became poor so that we might be rich in His grace—of which generous giving is part—so we also who are rich in His grace can excel in pressing His grace into service toward the gracious work of the church.

Pay attention to what you give to the church so that you may excel at it. And if you find that your heart has grown cold or indifferent toward it, immerse yourself in God’s Word. Read it at home. Attend Bible Class. Hear and listen to it preached in the Divine Service.

Be reminded of what Christ has done for you in His incarnation, suffering, and death. For this will strengthen your faith and knowledge. And where that excels, so will the grace of giving excel also.

**The mission of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church is to know Christ
and inspire people to be caring instruments of God in spreading Christ’s love,
with joyous enthusiasm, by word and deed.**

From our Congregational President, Annette Maresca

My first year as Congregational President has been somewhat busy. I have attended many committee meetings, board meetings and also met with the NJ District President and other Congregational Presidents in our district. I have the distinct honor of serving on a Board of dedicated volunteers who constantly go above and beyond to serve God and our church.



Early 2017 saw the forming of a new committee that will oversee many new and exciting changes for our church. This committee is chaired by our Treasurer, Brandon Chornobroff. The goal of this committee is "Stabilization through Revitalization" The first step was to apply for funding with LCEF. I am happy to report, the closing for this loan is scheduled for February 5, 2018. Our first project will be to replace the boiler in the Parish Hall. Other projects that are being considered; siding the church sanctuary, painting the inside of the church sanctuary, repaving the church parking lot, just to name a few. We will strive to keep the congregation in the loop, through newsletter articles and church announcements.

The Board has also seen some changes. Our longtime treasured Finance Director, Larry Landis has stepped down. Donna Recevuto who served for a short while as Board Secretary stepped down as well, they will both be missed. MaryAnn Campagna now serves as our new Finance Director. We welcomed two new members to the Board, Cindy Palladino as Finance Secretary and Bonnie Bischoff as Board Secretary.

I thank the Lord for all he has given me. I serve in this position to honor Him and do so with a glad heart. I thank everyone in our church family for your trust in my ability to care for our church operations.

From our Director of Stewardship, Ken French

Duties of the Director of Stewardship

The director of Stewardship according to our Constitution and By Laws is supposed to have an annual pledge drive which was just done in preparation for 2018. The Stewardship Director is also a part of the Finance committee and helps with the annual budget.

The Director also helps to discover the talents of the membership to enlist members in the congregational program.

The Director also works with the Evangelism Chairperson on outreach programs .

The Director also helps to orient new members of the congregation.

The chairperson, financial secretary, treasurer, and director of finance shall also be ex-officio members of the Stewardship committee.

Save the Date: MC14 Mission Classic Golf Outing - May 3

Mark your calendars now, and start gathering your foursome for the 2018 Mission Classic Golf Outing.

You won't want to miss this great day of golf, for a great cause:

- **WHEN:** Thursday, May 3, 2018
- **WHERE:** [Heron Glen Golf Course](#) in Ringoes, NJ.

More information coming soon!





FAMILY FUN EVENT

(SUBMITTED BY PASTOR FOSSE)

In 2018, for every month of the coming year, the Elders will host a family-friendly event. In January, we had a pot luck and game night. This month, we will have a crepe luncheon.

On 11 February 2018 we will have a crepe luncheon in the parish hall after the late service. The background for this is to be found in the history of Shrove Tuesday which is the day before Lent begins.

The verb shrive is an archaic English word meaning the imposition of a penance. Ælfric of Eynsham's "Ecclesiastical Institutes" from around 1000 AD states: "In the week immediately before Lent everyone shall go to his confessor and confess his deeds and the confessor shall so shrive him as he then may hear by his deeds what he is to do [in the way of penance]". The traditional penance for Lent included fasting from entertainments and certain foods (not chocolate which wasn't known in Europe until after Columbus). The foods in question included fat, milk, butter, and eggs which would spoil before Lent ended so the tradition began of using them up before the season began.

Different countries in Europe have different traditions of observing this day. In England and Ireland Shrove Tuesday is known as Pancake Tuesday. Even people who rarely or ever attend church services are known to eat pancake dinners on this day. There is also a tradition of celebrating this day with races and games, like the ever popular pancake toss. In France the pancakes are usually crepes. In Sweden they make special buns "semior" which are filled with almond paste and topped with whipped cream. The Finns eat "blini" with caviar and smetana (a type of sour cream). In many countries, especially in southern Europe, parades evolved into Marti Gras. Germans eat fried donuts called Fasnachts.

People enjoyed this preparation before the fast so much that the eating of these foods was frequently begun days or even a week before Lent began. We are following this tradition by moving the celebration to the Sunday before Ash Wednesday so please join us for our crepe luncheon after the late service on 11 February. We'll see you there.

Medicare Cards without Social Security Numbers Coming in 2018

(Reprinted from the OIG Communications Division of the SSA / Submitted by Judy Ricca)

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) recently announced it is preparing to issue Medicare cards that will use new unique numbers in place of cardholder SSNs. CMS said it would begin mailing new cards to beneficiaries in April 2018.

"We're taking this step to protect our seniors from fraudulent use of Social Security numbers, which can lead to identity theft and illegal use of Medicare benefits," said [CMS Administrator Seema Verma](#). "We want to be sure that Medicare beneficiaries and healthcare providers know about these changes well in advance and have the information they need to make a seamless transition." To protect seniors from identity theft, the law required the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to issue new Medicare cards that did not display, code, or embed SSNs by April 2019.

The new cards will use a unique, randomly assigned number called a Medicare Beneficiary Identifier (MBI) to replace the SSN-based Health Insurance Claim Number (HICN) currently used on Medicare cards. CMS will assign all Medicare beneficiaries a new, unique MBI number. When beneficiaries receive their new card, they should safely and securely destroy their current Medicare card and keep their new MBI confidential. This upcoming card change will not affect a beneficiary's Medicare benefits.

For more than a decade, we and other Federal agencies [recommended taking SSNs off Medicare cards](#), to limit identity theft and Medicare fraud against seniors. We believe this effort will be a significant step forward to protect seniors, who are increasingly the victims of these crimes.

To support a successful transition to the MBI for Medicare beneficiaries and healthcare providers, CMS has developed a [Social Security Number Removal Initiative website](#) with updated information. CMS also plans to issue reminders about the upcoming change as April 2018 approaches.

FROM YOUR PASTOR'S DESK – February 2018

Dear members of Prince of Peace

On 14 February we will enter the season of Lent. This is the English term for the lengthening of the days during the spring season. In some other languages (including French, Italian, and Portuguese) the word for the season is derived from the length of the season, forty days. Italian: quaresima. The Germans, Norwegians, Czechs and others refer to the season as a fast time. German: Fastenzeit. The Russians and others call the season the Great fast (veliki post).



In the earliest days the fast had been three days and only those who were to be baptized we obliged to keep it. As with many things, it morphed and became longer and more broadly applied over time. The Abbess Egeria, in the fourth century, traveled to Jerusalem from Spain and wrote back to her nuns that there the Lenten fast was eight weeks long, not counting Saturdays and Sundays. In Spain it was just forty days long. In the civic sphere Lent was also observed, theatrical entertainment was forbidden as were Law Courts. In 380 we read that Gratian and Theodosius ordered that law suits were suspended until after Easter so that people could have the peace necessary for the soul's self examination.

We have long reduced the practices of Lent. For many this truncated observance is limited to giving up chocolate, putting coins in a folder, or attending mid-week services. All of these practices and many others are good. In the Small Catechism Luther wrote "fasting and bodily preparation are certainly fine outward training." But the outward preparation is not the goal but a means to a goal.

The goal, as always, is to help us get closer to our Lord. In our fast we remember the people following Moses for forty years in preparation of their entrance into the Promised Land as the people of God and not run away slaves. We also remember Elijah journeying for forty days to meet God on Mt. Horeb (1 Kings 19:8), and of course our Lord's forty days in the desert at the beginning of his ministry. In our Lenten fasts we should be leaving behind those things which can get in the way of our meditating on the love which compelled God to send his Son to save us from ourselves and bring us into God's presence.

A good Lenten piety might be to dedicate time for spiritual reading. The Bible is always good although

I know a Pastor who retranslates Gregory the Great's Pastoral Rule each Lent. When dedicating this time for study and meditation remember to turn off your cell phone as well as the TV or other electronic devices which will command your attention.

Don't read quickly to get it over with, take your time and allow the text to talk to you. Susan Howatch in her book Glittering Images (Fawcett Books, 1987) writes how when she was reading passages from Saint Augustine's Confessions and Thomas a Kempis' The Imitation of Christ she realized that she had sped through the readings and "after five minutes I found all my attempts at meditation had run aground on the rocks of boredom." Psalm 46:10 says "Be still and know that I am God." The Hebrew word translated as still means to "let go."

This Lent let go of those things and habits which claim your allegiance and spend time with God. Invite God into your life and don't be surprised when you experience God's love in a new way.

Please join me on Wednesday evenings in Lent to observe this stillness in the midst of our too busy life.

Yours truly

Kenneth Fosse

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

At our Annual Voters Meeting held on Sunday, January 28th, the following Board of Directors positions were voted on and filled:

- Board Secretary – Bonnie Bischoff
- Treasurer – Brandon Chornobroff
- Director Elders – Denise Abdul-Malak
- Director Trustees – Tommy Campagna
- Director Education – Danielle Romano
- Director Fundraising – Open
- Director of Finance
– MaryAnn Campagna
- Financial Secretary – Cindy Palladino

Board positions not listed remain unchanged. We thank Larry Landis and Donna Recevuto for their service to the church as they step down from their positions on the Board.

We thank the Nominating Committee for their diligence and we wish all the new Board members the best of luck in their new positions.



Family News

Anskar Fosse (son of Rev. and Mrs. Kenneth Fosse) and Huirong (Summer) Jiao were married at Prince of Peace by Rev. Larry McCormick on Saturday January 20, 2018. May God grant them all of life's blessings and love's joys.

Summer Fosse was baptized at the 10:15 a.m. service on Sunday January 21, 2018 by her father-in-law, Rev. Kenneth Fosse. Summer's sponsors were her husband, Anskar Fosse and her mother-in-law, Ginny Fosse.

Best wishes to Lauren (Renouf) Lopez and Saraiah Lopez on their recent wedding. Congratulations to you both on your new life together.

Benjamin Ryan Stoop, son of Christopher and Alyssa Stoop, was baptized on Saturday January 13, 2018. Benjamin's sponsors were Jesse Stoop and Kristen Rolfe. Benjamin, may God continue to bless you and your family.

On Nov. 23, 2017, Douglas Weir, brother of member Anne McDonnell, was called to his eternal rest. Please keep this family in your thoughts and prayers.

We would love your support!

Buy your Valentine's Day gifts at
smile.amazon.com and Amazon donates.

amazon smile

FEBRUARY DEADLINE

If you have an article that you would like placed in the March 2018 newsletter, please email it or drop it off in the church office.

The church email address is popchurch@optonline.net.

The deadline is
Tuesday February 20, 2018.



Empty your medicine cabinet and save a life! Drop unwanted prescriptions in the Project Medicine Drop box at the Howell Police Department.
Anonymous and available 24-7.

Who Wants Jesus to Die?

**Conversation about mission & ministry, with the NJ District President The Rev. Dr. Anthony Steinbronn
Reprinted from the NJ District website**

1/30/2018

One of the more interesting, and thought-provoking, Lenten sermon series that I came across during my years as a parish pastor was titled: **Who Wants Jesus to Die?**

On the night in which Jesus was betrayed, He laid aside His garments, like a slave, and began to wash the feet of His disciples. Look at the kind of men that He was serving...Judas would betray Him...Peter would deny Him...and the other disciples would flee from Him when things got too dangerous in the Garden of Gethsemane.

But His service did not end with the washing of their feet, His work of service would cause Him to be lifted up on that cursed tree of the cross. After Jesus had washed the feet of them all, Judas leaves them in order to set into motion the events that would bring Jesus to the cross; and, waiting in the background, were all kinds of individuals who would want Jesus to die.

The Jewish leaders want Jesus to die for He had confronted them with their false beliefs and false way of salvation. Their plan was simple -- this Jesus must die so that they can keep their place, their nation, and their position of power.

The Father wants Jesus to die. Not many earthly fathers want their children to die; matter of fact, most fathers would give their lives for their children. Yet, already in the Garden, the Father promised that the Son would come so that Satan could be defeated (1 John 3:8b) and eternal life be given to those who looked forward to the Son's coming and the salvation that He would bring (1 John 5:11-12).

At the very beginning of His ministry, as He was being baptized in the Jordan River by John, the Father revealed that this Jesus must die in order to fulfill all righteousness (Matthew 3:15). At the Mount of Transfiguration, Moses and Elijah review with Jesus all that must be done so that the Law and the Prophets would be fulfilled (Luke 9:30-31).

Isaiah summarizes His saving work in this way: "He was wounded for our rebellious acts. He was crushed for our sins. He was punished so that we could have peace, and we received healing from His wounds" (Isaiah 53:5). And as Paul writes: "for our sake God made Him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God" (2 Corinthians 5:21).

Satan wants Jesus to die. Satan, throughout the Old Testament, sought to stop the world's Savior from being born. Three examples for your consideration: at the time of the flood, only Noah and his family is left yet God was able to make a new beginning with them; and, at the time of Jesus' birth, King Herod sought to kill Jesus by killing all of the baby boys two years and younger in the region of Bethlehem; and, at the time of His crucifixion, we hear Satan shouting through the voices of the religious leaders, and the people of Jerusalem, demanding that Jesus be crucified and not realizing that His death on the cross would bring about his defeat.

Barabbas wanted Jesus to die so that he could be set free. Barabbas deserved to die because of the criminal acts that he had done; as we know from the life of our Lord, He was without sin and should have been the One to be set free by Pilate that day, not Barabbas.

And that is why it was so difficult for the disciples to understand Jesus' message when He, on three separate occasions, told them that "we are going up to Jerusalem; and the Son of man will be delivered to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn Him to death, and deliver Him to the Gentiles; and they will mock Him, and spit upon Him, and scourge Him, and kill Him; and after three days He will rise!" (Mark 10:33-34).

In a way we are like Barabbas, we needed Jesus to die...so that He could become our substitute and fulfill all righteousness and be the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. "For the Son of Man came not to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many."

May you experience a blessed Lenten journey to the cross and to His resurrection!



A Night of Disco

SAVE THE DATE!

SATURDAY APRIL 28, 2018

OUR DINNER / COMEDY SHOW / GIFT AUCTION

PROPERS PREVIEWS

A look at the readings to help you prepare for worship

February 4, 2018

Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

Isaiah 40:21-31 You shall run and not grow faint.

1 Corinthians 9:16-27 Run the good race!

Mark 1:29-39 Jesus reached out to all people.

February 11, 2018

The Transfiguration of Our Lord

2 Kings 2:1-12 Elijah is taken up into heaven.

2 Corinthians 3:12-13; 4:1-6 "Being transformed into His likeness.

Mark 9:2-9 Jesus is transfigured.

February 18, 2018

The First Sunday of Lent

Genesis 22:1-18/ Abraham prepares to offer Isaac as a sacrifice.

James 1:12-18 "God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He tempt anyone."

Mark 1:9-15 Jesus is tempted by Satan.

February 25, 2018

The Second Sunday of Lent

Genesis 17:1-7. 15-16 God renames Abram and Sarai.

Romans 5:1-11 "we were reconciled to Him."

Mark 8:27-38 "Take up your cross and follow Me."

THOSE WHO SERVE

ASSISTING MINISTERS AT THE 10:15 a.m. SERVICE

2/4	Ken French
2/11	Brandon Chornobroff
2/14	Ash Wednesday (7:00 p.m.) Ken French
2/18	Larry Landis
2/25	Denise Abdul-Malak

Don Grayce will be the Elder at the 8:00 a.m. services

Lynne Berghoff will be the Lector
on the first Sunday of each month.

Denise Abdul-Malak, Head Elder, 732-406-1531,
schedules Assisting Ministers

ALTAR GUILD

Lisa Tess, Elba Hillis and Anne McDonnell

Lisa Tess, 732-905-0687, is Directress of the Altar Guild. Members serve for one month on a rotating basis.

FEBRUARY USHERS

Larry Landis, Trish McAllister, Carly Prendergast,
Mark Ossimina, Ayden Georgiano, Lia Nelson

ALTAR FLOWERS

Please place \$20 per bouquet in a Flower Fund Envelope (which can be found in the Flower Book) and place it in the offering plate. There is a maximum of three bouquets on the altar each week.

ACOLYTES

2/4	(8:00 a.m.) TBD (10:15 a.m.) Tyler Zawatski
2/11	(8:00 a.m.) TBD (10:15 a.m.) Claire Manna
2/18	(8:00 a.m.) Nicholas Ward (10:15 a.m.) Victoria Harper
2/21	(7:00 p.m.) Brooke Ossimina
2/25	(8:00 a.m.) TBD (10:00 a.m.) Nicholas Romano

