



Life-Lines

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APRIL 2017

WONDERMENTS FROM PASTOR WAYNE'S WORLD

I wonder if everyone knows we have Stations of the Cross posted along the walls of the sanctuary. I wonder also if everyone knows we have traditionally had the Stations of the Cross re-enacted at noon on Good Friday. In the 13th century St. Francis and the Franciscans were the ones who first began to advocate for the stations, but it was not until William Wey, an English pilgrim who visited the Holy Land, described pilgrims following the footsteps of Christ to the cross, did it become practiced. Then in 1521 a book called *Geystlich Strass* (German for spiritual road) was printed in Jerusalem with illustration of the stations. Thus, from 1686 to 1857 popes Innocent XI and Clement XII and English bishops authorized use of stations in churches.

Originally there were 14: 1. Jesus is condemned to death, 2. Jesus carries his cross, 3. Jesus falls the first time, 4. Jesus meets His mother, 5. Simon of Cyrene helps Jesus carry His cross, 6. Veronica wipes the face of Jesus, 7. Jesus falls the second time, 8. Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem, 9. Jesus fall the third time, Jesus is stripped of His garments, 11. Jesus is nailed to the cross, 12. Jesus dies on the cross, 13. Jesus is taken down from the cross, 14. Jesus is laid in the tomb. Stations 3, 4, 6, 7, and 9 are not attested to in Scripture. Jesus did not fall, nor is there any woman in Scripture named Veronica although the devotion of one woman could symbolize the devotion of all women. Although it made for good "Hollywood" drama, Jesus did not meet His mother. If she did meet Him, she might have said something like this, "You stop all this Messiah talk and come home right now."

In 1991, Pope John Paul II authorized new form of devotion called the Scriptural Way of the Cross on Good Friday. Still 14, here are the Scriptural Stations. 1. Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane, 2. Jesus is betrayed by Judas and arrested, 3. Jesus is condemned by the Sanhedrin, 4. Jesus is denied by Peter, 5. Jesus is judged by Pilate, 6. Jesus is scourged and crowned with thorns, 7. Jesus takes up His cross, 8. Jesus is helped by Simon of Cyrene to carry his cross, 9. Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem, 10. Jesus is crucified, 11. Jesus promises His kingdom to the repentant thief, 12. Jesus entrusts Mary and John to each other, 13. Jesus dies on the cross, 14. Jesus is laid in the tomb.

In the Philippines where men re-enact the crucifixion, the

Catholic Conference of Bishops authorized another "Mostly Scripturally-based Stations". 1. The Last Supper, 2. The Agony in Gethsemane, 3. Jesus is condemned to death, 4. Jesus is scourged and crowned with thorns, 5. Jesus carries the cross, 6. Jesus falls under weight of the cross, 7. Simon of Cyrene helps Jesus carry the cross, 8. Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem, 9. Jesus is nailed to the cross, 10. The good thief, 11. Mary and John at the foot of the cross, 12. Jesus dies on the cross, 13. Jesus is laid in the tomb, 14. Jesus rises from death. The "traditionally Stations" did occasionally include a "15th station", the Resurrection.

These three "ways of the Cross" are good devotional practices during Holy Week. Use one, two or all three and experience how our Lord suffered for us.

Pastor Wayne

Social Concerns Report

April! Weren't we just in February?! Spring is here along with the celebration of the Resurrection! The happiest of moments, when the stone was rolled away and the tomb was empty. This time of year brings the hope of all the possibilities that our Lord has for us! I always try to keep my eyes open for new opportunities to serve, even if it sometimes draws me out of my comfort zone.

Please remember all the ways there are in our Church to help be our Lord's hands and feet! We have our food donation baskets for GAM, Relay for Life, our Back to School Giving Table going up the last Sunday in July for much needed school supplies, and our Annual Yard Sale on September 30-- just to name a few!

We also look forward to announcing this year's Summer Campers! Scholarships are due back by April 2. Please let me know if you have any questions regarding the applications. Please return applications to the Social Concerns mailbox.

From all of us on the Social Concerns Ministry, we would like to always express our gratitude for all the support you show us throughout the year. We could not do it without you!

Sarah Watkins

Social Concerns Ministry



April

April 2	Don Stang
April 7	Gray Anthony
April 15	Shari Rebbeor
April 15	Enid Weatherwax
April 19	Arthur Kyles
April 19	Roland Kyles
April 21	Jeannie Stang
April 24	Shirley Poole
April 26	Sara Melanie Bollinger
April 29	Alecia Harrison
April 29	Chris Thomsen
April 30	Sarah Rebbeor

May

May 6	Carla Niemann
May 10	Mary Cook
May 11	Leslie Hash Jarrett
May 11	Penny Tarleton
May 17	Virginia King
May 22	Tucker Britt



Thank you to Sarah Watkins for setting the altar for March and to Ginny King for baking bread. Thank you also to those who donated wine or grape juice.

At the meeting of the Altar Guild on April 8, silver was polished and furniture was dusted and polished.

We are rapidly approaching the end off Lent (40 days since Ash Wednesday). Lent has two primary themes, baptism and penitence. The Lord's passion is the focus of Holy Week.

"The first day of Holy week is the Sunday of the Passion, also known as Palm Sunday. The mood of this day, reflecting its double name is a mixture of triumph and tragedy. We observe both Christ's triumphant entry into Jerusalem as well as his death on the cross. Palms will be distributed. Paraments are scarlet, the dark red color of the crucifixion, and are uniquely used during most of Holy Week.

"Maundy Thursday recalls Jesus' example of loving service and his institution of the eucharist during the Last Supper in the upper room. The name of the day is from the Latin word *mandatum*, which means command. It refers to Jesus' words at the Last Supper, 'I give you new commandment, that you love one another, just as I have loved you, you also should love one another' (John 13:34).

"Good Friday, the original name of this day was probably God's Friday. It is a day to celebrate the sacrifice on the cross of Christ, our Passover Lamb. The altar may be draped with a black cloth or remain bare,

"Easter, the Festival of the Resurrection of Our Lord is the queen of all Christian festivals, and all preparations for its celebration should make its unique significance apparent. White paraments are used during the 50 days of the Easter season. The paschal candle will be placed at the left side of the altar from Easter through Pentecost. The paschal candle will be lighted for all worship services as a reminder of the unity of these fifty days of celebration."¹

---Carol Wallace

¹Altar Guild and Sacristy Handbook S. Anita Stauffer

Able to Serve Mother's Day Brunch

For the second year we are pleased to host a Mother's Day Brunch for the mothers of the Able to Serve clients. Last year was a big success! Up to that point the mothers had not met one another and this was a great day -- and way -- to meet each other, and share stories, joys and concerns.

This year will be a repeat! The brunch is on Tuesday, May 9, from 9:30 a.m. until around 11:00 a.m. We are expecting about thirty mothers this year since Able to Serve continues to grow. We will be serving breakfast casseroles, fruit, muffins, coffee and juice.

After the brunch the Able to Serve group will come to the fellowship hall and present a program to honor their mothers.

Are you be willing to make a casserole, help to serve or help to clean up? It was a very rewarding morning last year and we know you will be blessed by the experience.

Contact Helen Holderman if you want to help or if you have questions. Please plan to be a part of this joyous time!



Helen Holderman
Social Concerns Ministry

WE'RE GOING TO A

May 7 -- 2:00 pm

See
Gray Anthony
for details!

MUDCATS BALL GAME



Prayer Requests

We pray for our world and those in it with hope for our future.

Grief . . . family and friends of Tim and Rita Clark's friend, Gail, who died March 10; family and friends of Tess Andrews' father, Arthur Van Benschoten, who died February 21; and

Health Concerns . . . Barbara Kyles, recovering from surgery; Gerry Havenstein, recovering; Joyce Havenstein, Helen Reaves, Tim Clark, Dan Stamm, Mona Stamm, Harry Albert, Carol Wallace, Perry Proper, Betty and John Nalepa, Christine Brennecke, Dennis King, Betty Zapata, Bob Baxter; and

Family and friends . . . Lisa Grayson's mother, Betty Hooker, mastectomy; Gerry Havenstein's sister, Jan O'Briant; Ethan Clark's friend, Staunto DeVine; Dan and Roxie Hayes' friends, Jacob and

Cynthia Sterling; Lisa Grayson's uncle, Bill Winterbottom; Susie, Benjamin and Bryce Lowe; Camille Morris' mother, Ola Morris-Jones; Carol and Don Wallace's friend, Raymond St. Pierre; Carol Wallace's sister, Claudia Bossen, Don Wallace's nephew, Chuck Wallace and sisters, Irene P. and Marge L.; Vince Wright's stepfather, Ronald Pierce; Shirley Poole's niece, Pamela Chrissinger; Barbara Kyles' niece, Sandy Blackburn; Shannon Thomsen's niece, Kylie Garner, and nephew, Nickolas; Kate Beck's friend, Lisa Gauger; Mary Cook's niece Sarah, nephew Will, son Daniel; Paul and Kerri Blanchard's son, Jason; Linda Hash's mother, Gerry Barlow; Dave Hash's mother, Lucille Hash Stewart; Esther Bredell's sister-in-law, Marti Swanson.

Please note: prayer requests that have been listed for several months have been removed. If you have current requests or updates of those listed, please e-mail them to: paulampic@aol.com

Birthdays . . . A Celebration of Being (here)!

I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.

Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.

Psalm 139:14a

Birthdays . . . how magnificent they are: seriously! I know . . . I know . . . you've become skeptical. Those of you who have engaged me in conversation for at least ten minutes are well aware of the absolute, unbridled joy I get during my birthday (month). Birthdays are awesome times; therefore, I'm trying to put birthdays in perspective for people who, for whatever strange and unfathomable reasons, don't fully appreciate my outlook and the gravity of the situation. Birthdays are important . . . period. If all else fails, you have to agree that they are a celebration of living; you know, being alive, being topside, being of this world. It's as if everyone who loves us is saying "thanks for being born . . . thank you for existing!" Plus, we get tons of cards and lots of presents all of which is very, very cool.

I even have my own simple prayer: Hi God, it's Gale. Thank you for giving me another year of life. Thank you for all the people who remembered me today by calling, sending cards, and letters, gifts and good wishes, and God, thank you most of all for your goodness and grace. Amen.

After all, it's not like my birthday is my achievement; it's God's. He created me and I praise Him for it year after year by celebrating as if it was my very first one.

As we get older, some of us don't look forward to our birthdays as much . . . BIG mistake! As I see it, the older we get, the more we

should focus on our birthday, spiritually as well as physically. We don't have to know the exact date of our spiritual birthday, but we do know that there is absolutely no anxiety associated with that occurrence because having God on our side for another year is the

best thing that can happen. So in essence, God gave us two birthdays (Hallelujah)! The physical one shows us "to everything there is a season" and that we don't all live in the same season at the same time; it's an evolution that lays the foundation for our forthcoming birthdays; the spiritual one reminds us what God has already done in our lives and that He is continually at work therein.

So you see, there's no need to dread your birthday or your age. All of God's creatures are wonderfully made. Even more than that, you have your very own day! Psalm 118:24 describes it as "This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it." We are here where we are today because God has placed us here; we are wonderfully blessed.

And since we have two birthdays each for 2017, I say "Happy Birthday All!"

---Gale J. Isaacs





As I write this, it is early March. But by the time you read it, we should have a new roof, and a new air conditioning unit in the Sanctuary.

It is almost Easter, the most Holy Day of the Christian calendar, when we remember that our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ rose and thus redeemed all of mankind from death for sin. Perhaps with what remains of the season of Lent, we all might think about asking Him, "What can I do for you today? How can I help, Lord".

Yours in the service of our Lord and Savior,
Wade Jensen

Parish Committee

One of the responsibilities of the Parish Committee is to encourage environmental stewardship. As Christians we are called to care for God's creation. By awareness of and appreciation for the natural wonders of the earth, we can lead by example of best practices. Please consider some or all of the following as ways to be good stewards of our Creator's world.

Practice conservation: This can be as simple as protecting water resources by using partial instead of full tap water flow or saving energy by remembering to turn off lights when you leave a room .

Recycle what can be repurposed: Many trash collectors have separate bins for glass, paper, cardboard and other recyclables. Take advantage of this repurposing by keeping a separate trash bin in your house just for recyclables. You will be amazed at how many household products come in recyclable containers as you empty your home recyclables into the trash collector bin.



Plant a tree: Trees replenish the air, protect soil from erosion, and are a great source of shade for homes in the summer months. Don't have a yard? Consider a donation to the Arbor Day Foundation or another charity that sponsors tree planting or forest renourishment.

Transportation : Try to combine trips by car when possible to save on fossil fuels. Better yet, walk or ride a bike which protects the environment and also helps you keep physically fit.

Protect wildlife: Animals are an essential part of our ecosystems and you can help by volunteering for forest, park, river or beach cleanup projects that protect the physical environment on which animals are dependent.

Nothing but blue skies!

If you attended the recent called congregational meeting held to inform members about the need for a new roof you know Tim Clark and the Property Committee spent many hours discussing the problem and working on a solution. Originally, thought to be a leaking problem that could be repaired turned out to be a major one, an entire new roof needed. Estimates were sought, pictures taken of the roof damage, and making a final decision as to the course to be taken.

The original cost of getting the job done was a staggering \$25,000! On further study and discussions it was determined that the roof had damage from a former hail storm. That made it an insurance question, As you know at the meeting all of this was talked about and when cost was announced, greatly reduced, a vote was taken to approve having the work done. The color of the shingles and trim was decided on and the work was to begin right away. The committee breathed a sigh of relief.

While the roof problem took up most of the committee's time and energy this past month, work was going on in other areas. Gerry Havenstein and Gray Anthony spent a full afternoon making the parking lot island flower planter beautiful. As you turn off Aversboro Road into our parking lot the first thing you see is the planter. It catches your eye immediately. They trimmed the rose bushes, cut back other plants, and cleaned and disposed of leaves, cuttings, and sticks. All in a days work.

The caring of the property and the buildings is an on going thing. The building is aging and other repairs and replacements are needed. Next on the agenda is replacing a heat pump. You will read and hear more about that in bulletins and next month's newsletter. Every member of this committee is doing something at sometime to make Your church presentable and welcoming. They all deserve an 'atta boy!'

---*Connie Fortmeyer*
Property Committee

Buy local: Avoid transportation impact on the environment and support local food producers by buying from local farmers and growers. An added benefit: from fruit to nuts to eggs, fresher always looks and tastes better.

Get educated: Learn more about our environment and how you can help make a difference. You can get started with information from the Natural Resources Defense Council, Renewable Energy World, Conserve Energy Future or The Nature Conservancy.

Together we can lead the way for responsible stewardship advocacy and practice for the beautiful world of which we are a part.

---*Rebecca Swanson*

Lion: a review

When the movie *Lion* ended the person I saw the movie with said something like this: "If someone wants to know what a real family is, watch this movie." It elicited that type of response. It is a wonderful, true story about family, actually two families: Saroo's family from India which encompasses the first half of the film when



5-year-old Saroo is played beautifully by Sunny Pawar, and his Australian family 20 years later when Saroo is played equally well by Dev Patel.

Most would say it is a two part movie which then blends the two parts at the end. The first part is all India first introducing 5-year-old Saroo and his family, namely his mother who takes on manual labor so her family can survive, and his older brother, Guddu, who is the "Wally" of Saroo's "Beaver". Guddu took care of Saroo and Saroo looked up to him.

The first part of the movie showed Saroo's India in a "no holds barred" kind of way not touching up the harsh conditions they lived under. Poverty forced the family, including Guddu and Saroo, to use any means -- cunning, hard work, and long hours -- to make money for their survival. It was all shown from ground level, the level of a 5-year-old boy. In a good news, bad news, kind of way, the first half is dominated by bad news for Saroo.

However, he is adopted by an Australian couple who bring him to their home in Australia and a new life, and the second part of the film is mainly filled with good news. He receives an education and is successful in business and in the standard romance. Still he cannot forget his life in India wondering about his mother, brother and sister. "Accidentally" leaving as a 5-year-old, he could not even know where exactly he left from. Encouraged by friends and with a little help from Google, like in his business he is successful. I will leave it at that because if we have our spiritual cinema series again this summer, *Lion* will be on the schedule.

I personally could not help but think about my daughter, Claire, and her biological mother. Her mother knew her future, greeted Anne Marie and me at the hearing, knowingly gave her over to us. Saroo, as a young man in Australia knew that for his mother and brother he was a missing person; they did not know what had happened to him. He had to change that.

I highly recommend this film. It deserved its nomination for best picture, Patel and Kidman for best supporting actors; nonetheless, bring tissues and make sure you stay all the way until the end. You will not know why it is called "Lion" until the very end.

---Pastor Wayne

Greetings from the Men's Group

At our March meeting we were treated to a delicious meal of lamb curry, cucumber salad and strawberry shortcake by Brad Hunnicutt. Afterward, we tackled some upcoming business items.

By the time you read this our pine straw sale will be completed. At the time of the writing, the orders are coming, and we are looking forward to a successful fundraiser.

We are again sponsoring a team and tee box sign at the Camp Agape Golf Outing, Monday, April 24. We have spots open on the team. If you are interested in playing, please see Gray Anthony.

We have tentatively scheduled the spring baseball outing for May 7, and we plan on having hotdogs in the fellowship hall after worship and then head to the ballpark. Tickets will be available for a suggested \$7 donation, and we will pay for any youth again this year. It is a fun event and I invite you to come out and enjoy peanuts, popcorn, and cracker jacks -- and a day at the ballpark.

The spring shredding event is scheduled for the morning of May 20. This is also the day of the church anniversary dinner, for which the Men's Group offered to help prepare a meal.

Our next business meeting will be April 7. This is moved up a week because our regular meeting night is Good Friday. All men are invited to attend, and bring a beverage of your choice. If it is your first time joining us, your meal is on the house.

Thanks,

Gray Anthony, president

Pebbles in a pond

When you toss a pebble into a pond there's a ripple that goes far beyond the original splash . . . anyone who has ever skipped flat rocks knows that! Well, right here in Garner we have a fine example of how that works. Lord of Life and Garner Area Ministries are the pebbles . . . our community is the pond.

Each month when you read this newsletter you see an article about the need for food and a request for giving to Garner Area Ministries food pantry. You have responded time after time to this need. Now we are in the midst of helping a refugee family, until they get to the point of being self sufficient, with things they need, one of which is food. A list was in our church bulletin on Sunday and many have responded to that.

Not only have you responded but so has Garner Area Ministries. Mary Cook spoke with someone at GAM and after explaining the situation, helping this family to get started here in their new country, she was told she could bring them in and they would be helped with groceries and possibly other items. Social Concerns makes a financial contribution to GAM each month so this is a case of us helping GAM and them helping others. Can you think of a better situation?

So please continue to open up your hearts and pocketbooks to GAM. Fill the baskets and watch for the return.

Keep tossing those pebbles!

---Connie Fortmeyer

APRIL 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 Fifth Sunday of Lent 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 11:30 am Council	3	4	5 7:00 am Rotary Breakfast 7:00 pm Lenten Service 7:30 pm Choir Practice	6	7 7:00 pm Men's Dinner Meeting 7:00 pm Women's Meet 'n' Eat	8 10:00 a.m. Altar Guild Meeting 10:00 am EASTER EGG HUNT
9 PALM SUNDAY 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 11:30 am Christian Ed	10	11	12 7:00 am Rotary Breakfast 7:00 pm Lenten Service 7:30 pm Choir Practice	13 7:00 pm MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE	14 12 Noon STATIONS OF THE CROSS 7:00 pm GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE	15
16 EASTER SUNDAY 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 11:30 am Stewardship	17	18 7:00 pm Inspirational Book Club	19 7:00 am Rotary Breakfast 7:30 pm Choir Practice	20 7:00 pm Social Concerns	21 11:00 a.m. until . . Fellowship Hall RELAY FOR LIFE BBQ!	22
23 Second Sunday of Easter 9:00am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	24 7:00 pm Worship & Music	25	26 7:00 am Rotary Breakfast 7:30 pm Choir Practice	27 LUNCH BUNCH 11:30 am site tba	28 RELAY FOR LIFE	29
30 Third Sunday of Easter 9:00am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 11:30 am Property		6:30 a.m. EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE LAKE BENSON PARK Donuts, sausage biscuits and coffee in the fellowship hall after the service!				