



NEW SCANDINAVIA LUTHERAN CHURCH

MARCH NEWSLETTER 2022

THE LENTEN JOURNEY BEGINS by Pastor Ron Gerl

Ash Wednesday

We now move into the season of Lent that begins with Ash Wednesday. The 40 days of Lent begins with a stark reminder of our mortal life. "From ashes we come and from ashes we return. Life is short compared to world history and lasts on the average of 75 to 80 years for humanity. The imposition of ashes reminds us of our mortality and our need for the Christ to give us hope for today and tomorrow. The history of Ash Wednesday taught that it was a day of fasting (no eating) and repentance of our sinfulness that leads to death (the imposition of ashes). The inner focus, however, is to realize our need for Christ Jesus who is our Savior.



Sermon Theme for Ash Wednesday is "Vision Problems: "Astigmatism" (everyone)

Midweek Lent Services

This Lent our Wednesday's will have a supper provided at 5:30-6:15 p.m. served by a family from the congregation. At 6:30-7:00 p.m. there will be a Lent Worship. This will be a time to look inward at our spiritual life and evaluate where we are in our journey with Christ in our life. We will be able to identify with New Testament characters and see our need to "Focus on Jesus" who clears our vision problems. (Tootie Larson is preparing a painting for our Wednesday Lenten theme on Spiritual Vision problems)

Sermon Themes on the Wednesday's in Lent

March 9..."Far-sightedness" (The Twelve Disciples)

March 16..."Near-sightedness" (Judas)

March 23..."Macular Degeneration" (Jewish Leaders)

March 30..."Glaucoma" (Pilate)

April 6..."Cataracts" (Peter)



CAN'T MAKE IT TO THE EVENING ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE?

Make an appointment on Wednesday, March 2 between Noon and 1:30 p.m. to receive a private imposition of ashes and Holy Communion. Pastor Ron will be available knowing that many seniors find it difficult to drive at night with their night vision issues. Call Rhonda at the church office NOW and reserve a time!

PASTOR RALPH MARQUART GUEST PASTOR ON March 6

Pastor Ron will be on vacation in warm sunshine beginning March 3 and return for the March 9 Lent worship. Pastor Ralph Marquart, an old friend of ours will be leading worship on Sunday, March 6. This is the first Sunday of Lent. Why don't you plan to come and greet and see him again! (Pastor Ralph and Pastor Ron both began their spiritual life in the Lord through Holy Baptism at Grace Lutheran Church in Green Bay, Wisconsin.)