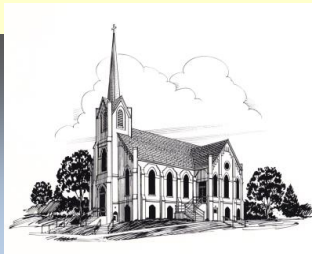


THE SPIRE



March 2016
Volume 4, Issue 3

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Pastor's COLUMN

By Rev. Mark Eldal

In Revelation 5:12 it says “Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power...and honor and glory...” As we journey through this Lenten season perhaps there are no better words to remember than these words.

For we remember at this time of year how Jesus would come humbly as a lamb to die for you and me. Even though he was and is King of kings and Lord of lords he would willingly lay down his life for us and then be raised on Easter morning.

He would do all of this so we might be forgiven and have eternal life.

This Lenten season may we live in loving awe of the Lamb who would give his life for us and then defeat death for us. May we freshly claim the forgiveness and promise of eternal life he gives as we trust in him as our Savior.

God bless,

Pastor Mark

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March 2016 Special Days

Some of the special days celebrated in March are:

- World Day of Prayer – March 4
- Girl Scout Sunday – March 6
- Daylight-Saving Time begins – March 13
- St. Patrick's Day – March 17
- Palm Sunday – March 20
- First Day of Spring – March 20
- Maundy Thursday – March 24
- Good Friday – March 25
- Easter – March 27

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SPRING CLEANING?? Don't forget the sewing group. They love blankets, sheets, mattress pads, material embroidery floss or sewing thread and live bodies to help!

There are **Easter Lilies** available through Sue's Flower shop. If you would like one, please fill out a form with \$16 to Tess in the office or just let Sue know. Thanks!

Join us on **Maundy Thursday @ 7:00 p.m., Good Friday @ 7:00 pm, Easter Sunday at 8:30 am or 10:30 am and for Breakfast @ 9:30 a.m.**

There is still time to sign up for **Camp Carol Joy Holling**. If you are interested, please contact **Pastor Mark or Tess** in the office for details.

We had coffee and rolls on Sunday, January 31, 2016 in honor of Helen Jean Nelson's 100th Birthday sponsored by her family. WHAT AN AMAZING MILESTONE!!



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICE will be at Evangelical Free Church with the First Lutheran Church assisting on Friday, March 4 at 10:00 am. There will be coffee and refreshments to follow.

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS MARCH 13, 2016

Winter Coat Drive is suspended, as the Open Door Mission is not accepting any more winter clothing items. The Women of the Word (WOW) will be holding a summer clothing drive starting after Easter.

Don't forget the annual East Oaks Pancake Feed, Sunday, March 6th at the Vet's Building in Oakland. Pancakes and all the fixings will be available from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. This is the 65th anniversary. Make plans to attend this fun 4-H food event!

If anyone would like to donate Thrivent dollars to First Ev. Lutheran Church, please notify Thrivent by the end of March.

During Lent, on Friday mornings, Men's Lenten Prayer Breakfasts are being held at the city auditorium from 6:00 a.m. - 7:30 a.m. FIRST LUTHERAN MEN WILL BE SERVING ON MARCH 11TH at 5:30 AM.



On Wednesday nights through Lent, we will be conducting Lenten Services at 6:30 p.m. with a meal to follow. Everyone welcome!



LENTEN SERVERS

March 2 Lenten Services – Group Ruth serves
 March 9 Lenten Services – Young Adults Group serves
 March 16 Lenten Services – Exec. Group Serves

There are Easter Lilies available through Sue's Flower shop. If you would like one, please fill out the form in this newsletter and return with \$16 to Tess in the office or just let Sue know. Thanks!

Thank you to everyone who sent a card to Jean Richard for her 90th birthday. She really appreciated it.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

The 3rd graders who received their Bibles on Sunday, February 7th were: Nolan Magnusson, Adilen Rennerfeldt, Bailey Pelan, Garrett Klausen, Gretchen Seagren, Jaxon Jorgensen and Corbin Guill.

Sunday Feb. 28, Pastor and Nancy Johnson had a short discussion with third-graders and their parents celebrating the milestone of receiving their Bibles. The church provided lunch following the discussion.

Please mark on your calendars that the Sunday School will sing on March 6th and April 17th.

A HUGE THANK YOU to the church for such a great response for our first pay it forward. We raised over \$500! Look for the plate to be passed around by our Sunday School children on March 6 after they sing in church. We hope to do it again in April and May.

The first pay it forward we paid for Christmas gifts to the Oakland buddy pack program. We shared this donation with Salem Church. The second pay it forward we are paying for Christmas gifts to the Miracle on Oakland Avenue sponsored by Oakland Women's Club. As for the future, we are taking requests for needy situations within our church and community.

Thanks, Angie

BIBLE STUDY NEWS

YOUTH GROUP will meet from 7:15-8:45 pm during the six Wednesdays of the Lenten Season (Feb 17-Mar 23). Following the meal, they will meet in the multi-purpose room off the sanctuary. The study group is open to all current Junior and Senior High students in the community. Regular Lenten services will be held at 6:30 p.m. each Wednesday night during lent. Services usually conclude by 7:15 p.m.

FRIDAY NIGHT PUB will start again in the fall. We are always looking for volunteers to help us chaperone. Please contact Connie Larson (402)380-5101 or Tess Johnson (402)380-5660, if you are interested.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY is on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month at 9:00 am.

KOINOINA BIBLE STUDY is the 3rd Sunday at 6:00 p.m.

GROWING TOGETHER BIBLE STUDY will not be meeting during Lent. We will announce after Easter when we will begin again.

CONFIRMATION NEWS

Confirmands will meet every Wednesday after Lenten services.

ELAINE PETERSON and JULIE EASTON



SEWING MEETINGS EVERY MONDAY AND TUESDAY MORNINGS
8:30 a.m. -12:00 p.m.



March 2.....9:30 a.m Bingo @ O.H.....Ruth
Lenten Services— Ruth serves

March 4..... 10:00 a.m. World Day of Prayer
 —@ Ev. Free Church w/ 1st Ev. Lutheran Church assisting

March 7..... Executive Meeting 9 AM

March 9 Group Meetings 9 AM, 2 PM, 5:30 PM
 Short meeting for Ruth Group after Lenten Church service
 Lenten Services—Young Adults Serve

March 16..... Lenten Services—Exec. Group serves

March 20.....Palm Sunday

March 23 -27.....Holy Week

March 27Easter Sunday

Clean Kitchen Mary



Dorcas Society March 30 @ 2:00 p.m.
 @ Oakland Heights

PRAYERS OF CONCERN

IN OUR PRAYERS OF CONCERN PLEASE INCLUDE: Charles Frahm, Moe Johnson, Ed Forks, May Taylor, Harold Hansen, Alissa Bousquet, Larry Dean Anderson, Lincoln Nobel Hangman, Janelle McClusky (Donna Preston's Daughter), Janis Nelson (Gordon Nelson's Sister), Vernelle Nelson, Andy Kruse, Bill Johnson, Warren Gregg, Tara Wallesen, Sandra Johnson, Wilma Neitzke, Don Andersen, Landon Johnson, Oliver Nimmo, Delwin Benne, Joseph Vandry, and Grace Meints, all of our servicemen and women, our shut-ins and our youth ministry.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 1 - Teresa Egbers, Cynthia Johnson, Eric Miller, Mollie Kate Blanc
 2 - Nancy Wonka
 3 - James Unwin, Ruth Wallerstedt
 4 - Clendon Rost
 5 - Ron Brudigam, Charles Seagren
 7 - James Unwin
 8 - Spencer Bromm
 9 - Heath Anderson
 10 - Connie Anderson, Julie Jones
 11 - Teigan Case, Rylee Stevenson, Landon Johnson
 13 - Alexis VonEssen
 14 - Russell Peterson, Laura Schnoor, Garrison Dodge, Shirley Lowe
 15 - Scott Krutilek
 16 - Scott Lindstrom, Earl Miller, Susie Nelson
 17 - Lee Peterson
 18 - Jeff Nelson
 19 - Donald Andersen, Baker Blanc, Hayden Johanson
 20 - Marlene Lindstrom, Linda VonEssen
 21 - Mike Denton, Dan Kahlandt
 22 - Dolores Bailey, Bonnie Goodrich, Vern Jensen
 23 - Delwin Benne
 24 - Roger Maller
 25 - Dexter VonEssen, Don Wallace
 26 - Connor Guill, Kent Johnson, Richard Strom, Henry Unwin
 27 - JoAnna (Lierman)Going
 28 - Mary Alice Pearson
 29 - William Akingbade, Cheryl Denker, Don Wolf
 30 - LeighAnn (Blomenkamp)McCartney, Richard Mulder, Eric Easton, Mallory Blanc
 31 - Judy Troupe



MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

- 7 - Jay & Diane Lindstrom
 12 - Richard & Marcee Tomasek
 15 - Kaleb & Luryn Andersen
 18 - Merle & Karen Karstens
 Mike and Karen Blanc
 27 - Mike & Janna Kloth



March 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
		8:30AM SEWING GROUP BIBLE STUDY 7:30PM A.A. MEETING	9:00AM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 9:30AM BINGO @ OAKLAND HEIGHTS 6:30PM LENTEN SERVICES 7:15 PM -8:45 P.M. YOUTH GROUP & CONFIRMATION 8:00 CHOIR PRACTICE	8:00PM N.A. MEETINGS		5:30PM COMMUNION SERVICE
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
9:30AM CONTEMPORARY - COMMUNION SERVICE 10:30AM FELLOWSHIP	8:30AM SEWING GROUP 9:00AM WOW EXECUTIVE MEETING 6:00PM EVANGELSIM COMMITTEE 7:00PM CHURCH COUNCIL MEETINGS	8:30AM SEWING GROUP 7:30PM A.A. MEETING	9:00AM 2:00 PM, 6:00PM WOW GROUP MEETINGS 6:30PM LENTEN SERVICES 7:15 PM -8:45 P.M. YOUTH GROUP & CONFIRMATION 8:00 CHOIR PRACTICE	8:00PM N.A. MEETINGS		5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICE
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
9:30AM WORSHIP SERVICE 10:30AM FELLOWSHIP	8:30AM SEWING GROUP 4PM WOW EXECUTIVE MEETING	8:30AM SEWING GROUP 7:30PM A.A. MEETING	9:00AM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 6:30PM LENTEN SERVICES 7:15 PM -8:45 P.M. YOUTH GROUP & CONFIRMATION 8:00 CHOIR PRACTICE	8:00PM N.A. MEETINGS ST. PATRICK'S DAY		5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICE
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
9:30AM WORSHIP SERVICE 10:30AM FELLOWSHIP 6:00PM KOINONIA MEETING	8:30AM SEWING GROUP	8:30AM SEWING GROUP 7:30PM A.A. MEETING	6:30PM -8:30 P.M. YOUTH GROUP 8:00 CHOIR PRACTICE	8:00PM N.A. MEETINGS 7:00 PM MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE	7:00 PM GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE	NO SATURDAY SERVICE
27	28	29	30	31		
8:30 AM & 10:30AM EASTER SERVICES 9:30 BREAKFAST	8:30AM SEWING GROUP	8:30AM SEWING GROUP 7:30PM A.A. MEETING	9:00AM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 6:30PM -8:30 P.M. CONFIRMATION & YOUTH GROUP 8:00 CHOIR PRACTICE	8:00PM N.A. MEETINGS		5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICE





**First Evangelical Lutheran Church
Oakland, Nebraska**

The church council met February 1, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. with the following members present: Greg Johnson, Cheryl Denker, Jon Seagren, Karl Lundquist, Carole Johnson, Mona Tanksley, Rachel Wise, Jim Pelan and Sam Schmidt. Pastor Eldal was also present.

Jon Seagren opened the meeting by reading devotions. Greg called the meeting to order and welcomed the new council members. The minutes of the January 4 meeting were read and accepted. The minutes of the January 24 meeting were then read and also accepted.

The list of various committees was distributed and council members signed up for the committee they wished to serve on.

Pastor Eldal presented his report of January activities. The Treasurer's report of profit and loss statement was reviewed and discussed.

Old Business: It was reported that the new phone system is to be installed later this week.

New Business: Upcoming worship service schedule was discussed. There will be two services on Ash Wednesday at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. both with communion. There will be five Lenten services at 6:30 followed by a meal. A video series will probably be used for the Lenten services. Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services will be held at 7 p.m. There will be two Easter Sunday services held at the same time as last years' services.

There was discussion regarding buses parking in the parking lot and weight limits. It was reported that in order to limit buses/trucks from parking in the lot we must have a sign that specifies the weight limit allowed. We will check into signage for weight limits. It was reported that we will have the organ checked again as it has not been working properly. The state of the furnaces was discussed noting that Vern Zessin has been here to check them. It is estimated that the furnaces are approximately 30 years old. The outside timers for the lights will be checked to make sure they are working properly. There was a discussion regarding fire extinguishers and we will check with our insurance agent to see if there is a requirement on how often they must be checked to insure they are working. Snow removal was discussed with the questions raised on what to do if we need to remove snow from our property. A new sound bar will be installed for the new television in the multipurpose room.

We still have the tables that were removed from the multipurpose room and it was agreed to sell them for \$25.00 each to anyone interested in them.

The Evangelism committee will plan to meet in March. There was discussion about having a second contemporary service and using the screen more often.

Sam thanked the council for the flower arrangement given in memory of his grandfather.

Devotions for meeting on March 7 - Carole Johnson

Communion Helpers - February 6 - Arla Ogden
February 7 - Mona Tanksley
February 10 - Greg Johnson

The meeting adjourned with all saying the Lord's Prayer.

Mona Tanksley, Secretary

6 & 7	195
10-Ash Wed	104
13 & 14.....	172
17 Ash Wed....	75
20 & 21.....	140
24 Ash Wed....	79
27 & 28.....	164

Regular	\$12,640.00
Ash Wed	\$ 963.00
Lenten	\$405.00
Designated	
Stuart Embury	\$ 100.00
Sunday School	\$ 54.70
Supplies	\$242.00
Memorial	\$250.00
Misc.	\$469.00
TOTAL	\$15,123.70

THIS MONTH USHERS

MARCH 2016 USHERS

2nd - Ian Lundquist and Garrison Dodge
 6th - Sam Schmidt, Roger Moderow, Darrell Schneekloth and Steve Peterson
 9th - Norm Case, Jared Mulder and Jacob Deemer
 13th - Norm Case, Jim Nelson, Sam Schmidt and Dan Tanksley
 16th - Lane Peterson and Wyatt Seagren
 20th - Norm Case, Charlie Seagren, Brady Jorgenson and James Jorgenson
 24th Maundy Thurs - Norm Case, Zach Lierman and Job Egbers
 27th - Easter - 8:30 - Norm Case, Gary Powell and Job Egbers
 11:00 - _____, Gordon Nelson

MARCH 2016 GREETERS

6th - Lois Schneekloth and Paige Peterson
 13th - Myrna Swanson and Mona Tanksley
 20th - LeeAnn Jorgensen and Karen Rosenboom
 27th - 8:30 Sally Johnson and Mary Alice Pearson
 -11:00 Rachel Wise-Nelson and Mary Alice Pearson



	<u>ACOLYTE</u>	<u>VIDEO</u>
Mar 2 -Lent Services-	Ashten Rennerfeldt	Wyatt Seagren
6- Sunday Services -	Marissa Mulder	Ashten Rennerfeldt
9 -Lent Services-	Josh Deemer	Marissa Mulder
13- Sunday Services -	Carly Stewart	Josh Deemer
16 -Lent Services-	Megan Bousquet	Jared Krutilek
20-Maundy Thur-	Lane Peterson	Megan Bousquet
24-Good Friday	Ian Lundquist	Lane Peterson
27-Easter 8:30 a.m.	Zoe Linder	Ian Lundquist
27-Easter 10:30 a.m.	Callie Stewart	Jared Krutilek
April 3- Sunday Services -	Colton Thomsen	Zoe Linder



2 – Bryan Bohn
 6 – Ruth Wallerstedt
 9 - Billye Pearson
 13 - Bryan Bohn
 16 - Bryan Bohn
 20, 24, 25- Bryan Bohn
 27- 8:30
 -11:00

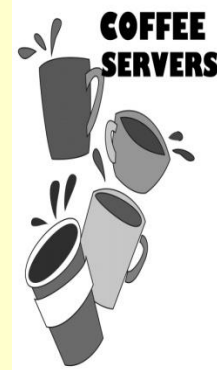


2 – Dan Tanksley
 6 – Jim/Dan Tanksley
 9 - Tess Johnson
 13 - Tess Johnson
 16 - Tess Johnson
 20 - Dan Tanksley
 24 - Tess Johnson
 25 - Tess Johnson
 27- 8:30 - Jim Pelan
 -11:00 - Dan Tanksley

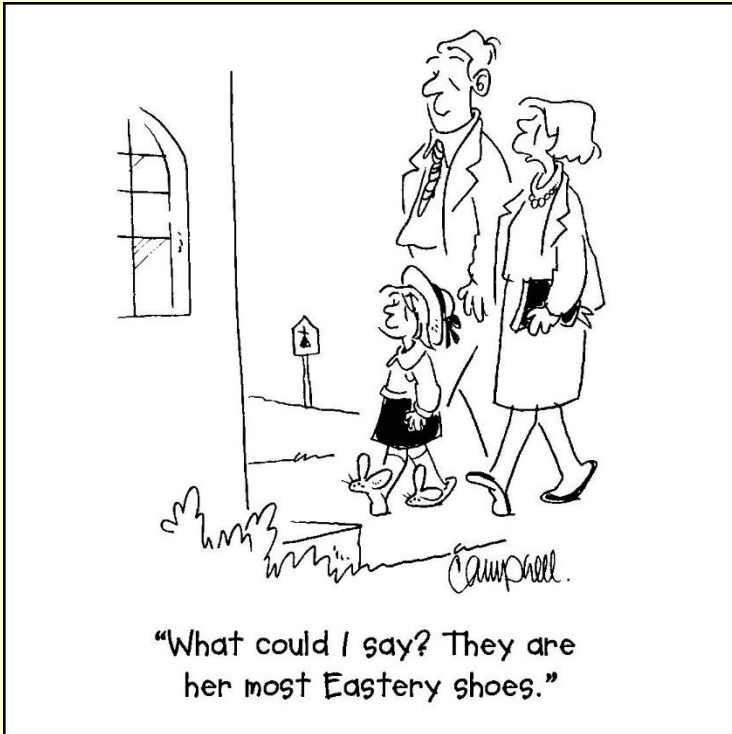
COFFEE SERVERS

DATE OF SERVICE

Paula Denton, Judee Dix	Sunday, March 6, 2016
Betty Dixon, Julie Easton	Sunday, March 13, 2016
Teresa Egbers, Julie Ehlers	Sunday, March 20, 2016
Jacque Eldal Vivian Forks	Sunday, March 27, 2016
Clara Frahm, Judy Groene	Sunday, April 3, 2016



CHRISTIAN HUMOR TO TICKLE YOUR LIFE



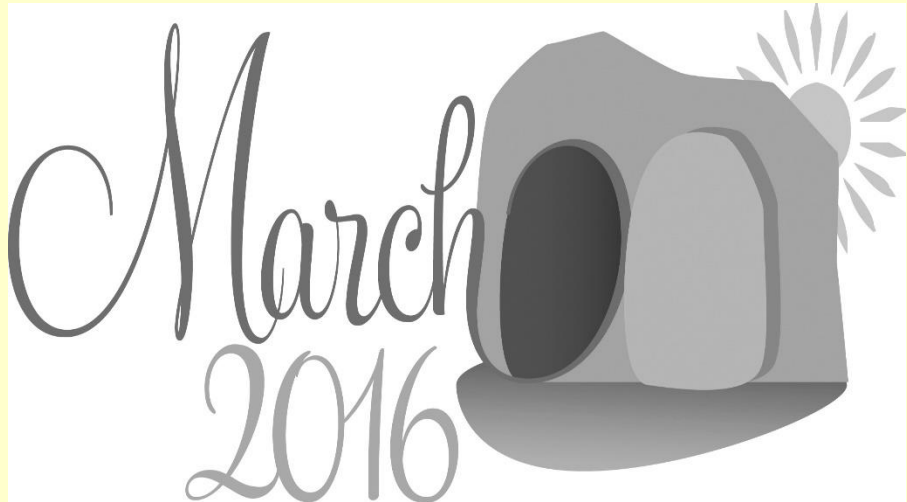
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We are committed to providing spiritual enrichment to ALL who seek the Lord.



March 2, 9, 13, - 6:30 PM Lenten Services
 March 24 - 7:00 PM Maundy Thursday Service
 March 25 - 7:00 Good Friday Service
 March 26 - NO SATURDAY WORSHIP SERVICE
 March 27 - 8:30AM & 10:30 AM Easter Service
 9:30 Easter Breakfast

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

www.firstlutheran-oakland.com



EASTER LILLIES

Name : _____

Phone #: _____

In Memory/Honor of :

Please give this form to Tess in the office or leave in the offering plate on Sunday with \$16 if you wish to order the lily from Sue's Flower shop or Please attach to the lily when you bring it to church to be used to decorate the church. Thank you!