

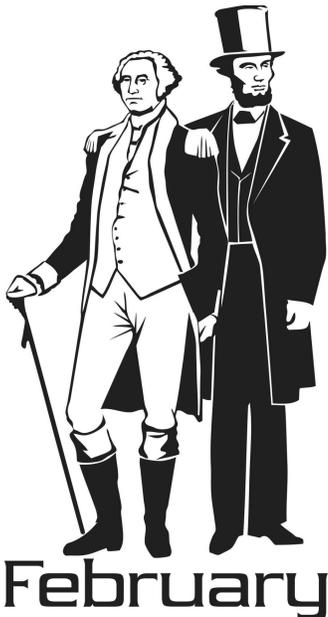
THE PRAISE PULSE

A Publication of Praise Lutheran Church, Fort Wayne, Indiana

February 2016



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Pastor's COLUMN



“LOVE IS A MANY SPLENDORED THING ...” Can’t you just hear the music playing in the background.

February is by many, thought to be the love month. It is possible that more flowers will be purchased during this month than any other time of year. (Hope you didn’t forget). Many people also use the word love to express their desire for something: *“I just love the color blue. I love football. I really loved going to that restaurant.”* Of course, we also say *“I love you”* to those special people in our lives – our spouse, children, other family members. And it is right to do so. Not like the husband who heard his wife say after 40 years: *“You never tell me you love me.”* Husband: *“I told you I love you when I married you. If anything changes I will let you know.”* This is probably not a good plan to follow and I’m sure many of the ladies are nodding their heads in agreement.

As we talk about love this month, let’s see how much God loves us.

John 3:16 *“For God so loved the world ...”*

1 John 4:19 *“we love because He first loved us ...”*

John 15:9 *Just as the Father has loved Me, I have also loved you; abide in My love.*

These are just a few of the ways God has told us he loves us. But there is another way He says in *John 19:30 Therefore when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, “IT IS FINISHED!” And He bowed His head and gave up His spirit.*

We will never “out love” God. His love is so far reaching that any form of love we can possess is not even a fraction of the love that God showed us: *“while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:8*

We will celebrate God’s love for us this month also. We will begin on February 10; Ash Wednesday. During this Lenten season we will again remember the great love God and Jesus have for us by recalling the great sacrifice He (Jesus) made for us. He died on the cross so I/we would not have to. He took my punishment so I/we would know only hope, grace and the peace of God which passes all human understanding.

Have a blessed love month.

YOU ARE BLESSED/LOVED
I AM BLESSED/LOVED

PASTOR RANDY



REPORT FROM SPIRITUAL CARE

The year of 2015 was started out with 310 baptized members and 251 communicant members. We had 1 baptism and no adult or children were confirmed last year. We added 1 associate member and we had 1 transfer in, 10 transfers to other Lutheran Churches, some of the transfers out left the state. We had 3 deaths and 9 people asked for release.

Last year has been very busy with waiting for Indiana District to okay the self study of the church. We received final papers on February 2nd. In April, we had a meeting with President Dan May and Christian Education Executive Counselor, Dr. John Mielke to help us proceed to find a senior pastor. The months of May and June, President May was involved with a lot of different conferences that he had to attend. In June, I asked the congregation to present candidate names to give to the Indiana District so that we could get information on the names submitted. I presented those to Indiana District the first part of July. On August 3rd, Pastor Tom Ahlersmeyer, our Circuit Counselor, came to the Spiritual Care meeting and presented 12 candidates along with their paperwork.

The Call Committee interviewed 2 candidates that they thought would fit into our church. This was presented to the congregation on November 1st. The congregation turned this down because they wanted more candidates and information before they made a choice. I called President May to get more names to start the procedure over. We received 5 names and the Call Committee declined all 5 names. Indiana District was called again and asked President May to look at our self study and prepare more names for us. We met on December 10th to start processing these candidates, with December being a very busy month we did not meet until January 7th to discuss the candidates. We will be interviewing candidates on January 14th and possibly on January 21st. We will be reviewing 4 candidates that we think would be potential pastors for our congregation. With the help of the Lord we would like to present to the congregation with information and have a special voter's meeting in February. A specific date has not been set at this time.

At the end of 2015, we have 280 baptized members and 224 communicant members.

Respectively Submitted,
Cal Wolff, Spiritual Care Chairman



You are invited to a social gathering on Tuesdays at our church in the Edge. Come and get to know your neighbors from the yellow house community and other members of Praise. We will be sharing our craft skills (no experience necessary) in creating useful items for local charities in the Fort Wayne area. There will also be cards & games (euchre, pool, ping pong and air hockey) for men and women. Refreshments will be provided.

Join us for the first gathering on Feb. 2nd from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. Any questions call Becky Stiefel at (260) 489-7553 or (260) 416-9197.



LENT BEGINS

Please join us for
Lenten Suppers 5:30 p.m.
Lenten Worship Service 7 p.m.

February 10 (Ash Wednesday)
Worship Ministry

February 17
Property Ministry

February 24
Women's Bible Study

March 2
Spiritual Care

March 9
Fellowship Ministry

March 16
Outreach Ministry

Easter Breakfast Volunteers Needed!

If anyone would like to host the Easter breakfast, please see or call Marilyn Van Dolah at (260) 627-3929.

Unfortunately, if there are no volunteers to host, we will not be able to have an Easter breakfast this year.

The Thrivent Choice® program is an easy way for eligible members to recommend how Thrivent Financial® should distribute a portion of its charitable outreach funds each year. In October, 2015 Praise Lutheran Church became a participating organization in Thrivent Choice®. Just since then, Praise has received Thrivent Choice Dollars® of \$942.00 from eligible Thrivent members!

If you are an eligible Thrivent member you may want to consider directing your Choice Dollars to Praise Lutheran Church or Little Praisers Preschool & Child Care.



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

February Birthdays

- 4-Alyssa Lehman
- 7-Tracey Freiburger
- Graham Whitehead
- 10-Alexander Dager
- 13-Kayla Meinerding
- 15-Navoria James
- 18-Jeanenne Gallmeyer
- Penny Lane Gumbert
- 19-Elaine Battenberg, Bob Zigler
- 20-Ann Zurcher
- 21-Luke Dillion
- 22-Sandra Mozena, Debbie Stabler
- Hilda Stoppenhagen
- 26-Bob Trimble
- 27-Beth Dager
- 28-Stephanie Swinehart



Become our friend on Facebook.



Voices in Praise practices will start on Tuesday, February 2nd at 7:30 p.m. The remaining Tuesdays in February practice will be at 7:00 p.m. Any questions, please see George Strasser.



Thank you for all your prayers, cards, phone calls and food during my recent surgery. I am blessed to have so many thoughtful and caring friends.
Elaine Battenberg

February Anniversaries

- 4-Robin & Richard Cooper
- 23-Richard & Marilyn Renbarger



P R A Y E R C H A I N

Our Prayer Chain will gladly offer prayers for you or a loved one who is suffering a crisis in their life.

Requests should be directed to:
Lois Gumbert at 637-3010
or loisigumbert@gmail.com

öKeep praying earnestly for all Christians everywhere.ö
Ephesians 6:18 TLB



E-mail your articles for the March Pulse by **February 15th** to:
office@praiselutheran.org
or call Karen in the church office.

Pray For Us Calendar

These prayer requests were submitted by coworkers in the Lord’s mission.

Congregations and individuals are invited to copy these pages for newsletters or other distribution. Download at lcms.org/prayforus or call 888-843-5267 to request a copy.



INTERNATIONAL WITNESS — FEBRUARY 1-29

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) has a long tradition of international mission work that dates back to the 1880s. This work has encompassed many different witness and mercy projects over the years in some 90 countries around the world. Today, LCMS efforts focus on training pastors, planting churches and starting schools, all while working in collaboration with partner churches in the five mission regions. God has blessed the far reach of LCMS mission work through LCMS members who support this work with prayers and gifts.

Remember God’s work through LCMS international witness work as you pray:



- 1. *for all missionaries around the world, as they are separated from friends and family this holiday season. Ask that God would give them comfort and courage.*
- 2. *that missionary families would be granted the things they need to serve in other countries, such as visas and work permits, solid educational institutions for their children and high-quality medical facilities near their new homes.*
- 3. *that the Lord would open up the hearts and minds of people around the world, so that His grace-filled message can be spread far and wide.*
- 4. *for short-term mission teams that are preparing to serve along-side LCMS missionaries and Lutheran partners around the world. We ask that they might be given support and safety in this work to share Christ with others.*
- 5. *for the Synod’s 36 partner churches around the world, that they would continue to teach Christ’s Word in all of its truth and purity.*

- 6. *for the children of missionary families, that the Lord would grant them health and flexibility as they adapt to new places and cultures.*
- 7. *for political stability around the world. Pray that God would bring peace to war-torn areas so that missionaries are able to safely enter those places to share the Gospel with hurting people.*
- 8. *for all refugees around the world, that God would work all things according to His purposes so that more people would have the opportunity to learn about His saving love.*
- 9. *for the pastors of the Independent Evangelical–Lutheran Church (SELK), the Synod’s partner church in Germany, who are ministering to the flood of refugees to the country. Ask God to energize and encourage them for this fruitful but exhausting work.*

- 11. *for the Bible camps that will be held in the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland this summer. Pray that God would provide willing volunteers for these camps, where hundreds of youth will hear the Gospel and make new Christian friends.*
- 12. *that partners — including the Synod, LCMS districts, LCMS congregations, international church partners and others — would work together to effectively share the Gospel with people of every land and language.*
- 13. *that God would raise up indigenous pastors, deaconesses and other church leaders to reach out to their own communities and share His saving Word.*
- 14. *for Christians around the world who are in danger, that the Lord would protect them from harm and strengthen their faith to face these trials.*
- 15. *with thanksgiving for the work God is doing in the hearts of students in Christian schools around the world, such as at Concordia Middle School in Chiayi, Taiwan, where several LCMS missionaries work.*

16. *for the Lutheran preaching station in Macau, which has formed around Concordia English Center. Please pray that through the relationships built at the center, more people would come to know their Savior, Jesus.*

17. *for churches, that they would be unified in purpose and filled with love. Ask that God would heal all divisions so that His people's words and actions might be a witness to others.*

18. *for the new lunch program for children at Castillo Fuerte Mercy House in the impoverished La Victoria district of Lima, Peru. Ask God to use this ministry to meet physical needs while teaching children about God's great love for them.*

19. *for the two new Castillo Fuerte locations set to open in Lima early this year. Pray that God would use these centers to provide a refuge in the Lutheran church to even more children, volunteers and staff members.*

20. *that God would raise up even more missionaries to serve as pastors, deaconesses, teachers and in other roles on the mission field.*

21. *for the training of pastors and evangelists in Africa. Several LCMS missionaries are involved in this work at the seminaries of our partner churches, where they help educate future leaders for these quickly growing churches.*

22. *that all people may come to believe in Jesus' glorious resurrection, which delivers us from sin, death and the power of the devil.*

23. *for the missionary training programs at the seminaries of the LCMS, that future missionaries would be properly equipped for this diverse and sometimes difficult work.*

24. *for the safety of all missionaries, especially those who work in countries that are hostile to the Gospel. Ask God to send His holy angels to guard these faithful people from danger.*

25. *for the children who benefit from "Christ's Care for Children: Kenya," a project of the LCMS Office of International Mission that provides education, meals and spiritual care at boarding-school facilities for Kenyan children who might otherwise not be able to attend school.*

26. *that God's Word and the Small Catechism might be rightly translated into the heart languages of all peoples, that they might come to know the true God.*

27. *for discernment, that we might heed God's call to serve in His name, whether that is around the world or here at home.*

28. *with thanksgiving for all of the faithful brothers and sisters in Christ who support LCMS missionaries through their prayers and gifts. This support helps these missionaries to fulfill their callings.*

29. *with thanksgiving for all past missionaries. Thanks be to God that the Gospel seeds they planted continue to bear much fruit.*



The Rev. Joshua Gale, LCMS career missionary to Peru, greets children for chapel at Castillo Fuerte Mercy House in Lima.



February, 2016

February 7, 2016 – Luke 9:28-36

“Jesus Changes Everything”

by Rev. Dr. Lawrence R. Rast, Jr., Concordia Theological Seminary~Fort Wayne, IN

There's more to celebrate today than the Big Game – Christ's Transfiguration changes our entire reality.

February 14, 2016 – Psalm 91:1-16

“Total Security”

by Rev. Dr. Walter A. Maier III, Concordia Theological Seminary~Fort Wayne, IN

In Psalm 91 God promises total security. To whom is this total security promised? What is this total security, this complete deliverance, which is promised?

February 21, 2016 – Luke 13:31-35

“Die With A Purpose”

by Rev. Paul E. Shoemaker, Emanuel Lutheran Church~New Haven, IN

In our world Christians are dying for their faith. It is that important to them. Jeremiah was willing to die for his faith. Jesus was willing to die for us. What about you? Our faith in Christ is the foundation of all that is truly important.

February 28, 2016 – Luke 13:1-9

“Cut It Down?”

by Rev. William Mueller, Suburban Bethlehem Lutheran Church~Fort Wayne, IN

When disease and disaster strike us we are tempted to hang our heads and conclude God must be punishing us. But dig into God's Word and see His amazing mercy in His Son, Jesus.

Sundays 6:30 AM WPTA, Channel 21

Sundays 8:00 AM Frontier 9, Digital 33.2 & Comcast 252

Sundays 11:30 AM TCT Network Channels, Direct TV 377

Sundays 4:00 PM & Mondays 10:00 AM Comcast 55 & Frontier 25

February, 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 6:30 PM Child Care	2 12:30 PM Social Ministry 6:30 PM Spiritual Care 7:30 PM VIP	3 10:00 AM Chapel 6:30 PM Praise Team 7:00 PM Worship	4 7:00 PM Women's Bible Study	5	6
7 9:00 AM Worship 10:30 AM Bible Class & Confirmation Class	8 7:00 PM Council	9 12:30 PM Social Ministry	10 Ash Wednesday 10:00 AM Chapel 6:30 PM Praise Team 7:00 PM Worship	11 7:00 PM Women's Bible Study	12	13
14 9:00 AM Worship 10:30 AM Bible Class & Confirmation Class	15	16 12:30 PM Social Ministry	17 10:00 AM Chapel 6:30 PM Praise Team 7:00 PM Worship	18 7:00 PM Women's Bible Study	19	20
21 9:00 AM Worship 10:30 AM Bible Class & Confirmation Class	22	23 12:30 PM Social Ministry	24 10:00 AM Chapel 6:30 PM Praise Team 7:00 PM Worship	25 7:00 PM Women's Bible Study	26	27
28 9:00 AM Worship 10:30 AM Bible Class & Confirmation Class	29					

THE PRAISE PULSE

Praise Lutheran Church
1115 West Dupont Road
Fort Wayne, IN 46825

Praising God in vibrant Worship
Reaching out with Christ-centered witness
Anchored in God's Word and Sacraments
Interceding for others
Stewards of God's varied gifts for the
building up of His Kingdom
Equipping the saints for works of service



PRAISE LUTHERAN CHURCH VISION STATEMENT

"Praise Lutheran Church, empowered by the Holy Spirit, strives to be a joyous body of Christ-followers, united by God's grace to P.R.A.I.S.E. Him; equipped to passionately serve and witness."

PRAISE LUTHERAN CHURCH

(Missouri Synod)

1115 West Dupont Road, Fort Wayne, IN 46825
PHONE: 260-490-7729 FAX: 260-490-0364
e-mail: office@praiselutheran.org
website: www.praiselutheran.org

VACANCY PASTOR

Rev. Randall Glander
CELL: (260) 918-5777

E-MAIL: RevGlander@praiselutheran.org

LITTLE PRAISERS

CHILD CARE OFFICE: (260) 490-9529
E-MAIL: littlepraisersoffice@gmail.com

PRAYER CHAIN: Lois Gumbert (260) 637-3010
E-MAIL: loisgumbert@gmail.com

OUR WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sundays

9:00 AM Worship Service
10:30 AM Bible Class & Sunday School

Wednesdays

7:00 PM Worship Service

Holy Communion
1st, 3rd, & 5th Sunday

