

---

# ✠ THE HOPE LUTHERAN ✠

Vol. 89, No. 1

February 2012

---

## A Holy Season of Prayerful and Penitential Reflection

On Ash Wednesday—February 22 this year—we hear these words as we begin the season of Lent:

*“...on this day the Church begins a holy season of prayerful and penitential reflection. Our attention is especially directed to the holy sufferings and death of our Lord Jesus Christ”* (LSB Altar Book, 483).

These opening words to our Ash Wednesday liturgy present us with two main themes for the season of Lent: (1) “prayerful and penitential reflection” and (2) “the holy sufferings and death of our Lord Jesus Christ.” In other words, when Lent comes, we turn our attention (1) to prayer and repentance, and (2) to our Lord’s suffering and death for us.

The Ash Wednesday exhortation then says this:

*“From ancient times the season of Lent has been kept as a time of special devotion, self-denial, and humble repentance born of a faithful heart that dwells confidently on His Word and draws from it life and hope”* (LSB Altar Book, 483).

We need this ancient practice of Lent in order to draw our hearts and minds to our need for salvation from sin and death, and to our Lord’s work of suffering and dying for us.

For “special devotion,” we make time for prayer at home and at church. It might even take special efforts to schedule prayer time at home. It might take some juggling of the schedule to attend Lent Evening Prayer at church. But it’s well worth it! For prayer time—“devotions”—at home, I highly recommend using *Treasury of Daily Prayer* (CPH). It gives Scripture readings, meditations, and prayers for each day of the year. During the season

of Lent these readings draw our attention to our need for salvation and how our Lord suffers and dies to rescue us from sin and death.

For “self-denial,” we learn how to say “No” to our self-centeredness. We learn, instead, to trust God and love our neighbor. If/When we fast, we learn to tell our stomach, “You’re not the boss of me!” When we practice “almsgiving” (giving money to charities or the needy), we deny our own selfish desires in order to help other people in their needs. That’s what Christians are called to do in all of life. And Lent gives us an annual “spring training” to live as God has created us to live.

For “humble repentance,” we learn how to confess our sins and be comforted by Jesus’ forgiveness. According to our Lutheran Confessions, these are the two parts of “repentance.” Here’s what the Augsburg Confession says:

*“Now, strictly speaking, repentance consists of two parts. One part is contrition, that is, terrors striking the conscience through the knowledge of sin. The other part is faith, which is born of the Gospel or the Absolution and believes that for Christ’s sake, sins are forgiven. It comforts the conscience and delivers it from terror. Then good works are bound to follow, which are the fruit of repentance.”* (AC XII.1-6)

During Lent we learn to view our sins with a different mind: they are that ugly, that wretched, that despicable, that repulsive. Our sins ought to bring terrors to our conscience. Our sins do go against God’s will; they do anger Him. Yes, we should sorrow over our sins, because they show



just how sick and ugly we have become because of that “infection” called original sin.

But let’s not forget the second part of “repentance,” that is, faith that receives the forgiveness that Jesus wins for us on the Cross. During Lent we learn to be comforted, not by our struggles against our sins, but by Jesus Himself. Everything that Jesus suffers, before and on the Cross, is for us—to forgive our sins and make us right with God once again.

Sometimes people say that Lent is “such a downer.” They hear the music in minor keys, and they aren’t quite sure what to make of all this talk of “repentance” and confessing sins and “self-denial.” Some people would rather look for a constant emotional high of joy and elation—such as we have when we celebrate Christmas or Easter.

But we know that we cannot have “good times” or “up times” all the time. Lent calls us to be honest with ourselves. We live in a fallen world, and we are fallen sinners. We need to be rescued from sin, from death, from Satan, and even from ourselves. That’s the great blessing of Lent! Our Lord Jesus comes to rescue us. Lent actually gives us a “repentant joy.” That’s a healthy joy, one that comes only by confessing our sins and relying on Jesus Christ, and Him alone, for our real joy in all of life.

Lent is far from “such a downer” of a time! During Lent we hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ in ways that give great comfort and peace. And that really strengthens our faith. No, we don’t take some kind of perverse pleasure from wallowing in our sins. That’s not at all what “penitential reflection” is about. Instead, it’s all about being comforted when we hear our Lord’s Absolution. Here’s what the Apology of the Augsburg Confession says:

*“When the Gospel is heard and the Absolution is heard, the conscience is encouraged and receives comfort.... Therefore, the voice of the one absolving must be believed no differently than we would believe a voice from heaven. Absolution can properly be called a Sacrament of repentance.... So faith is conceived and strengthened through Absolution, through the hearing of the Gospel, through the use of the Sacraments, so that it may not give in to the terrors of sin and death while it struggles.”*  
(Apology XII.39-42)

May our Lord Jesus Christ grant you a blessed and holy season of Lent!

Pastor Randy Asbury

## **BELIEVING CHRISTIANS, ON ENTERING THE HOLY SEASON OF LENT, MEDITATE ON THE SUFFERING OF JESUS CHRIST**

### **EXHORTATION**

*For our sake He made Him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God. 2 Corinthians 5:21*

Among the early Christians the holy season of Lent was a season of devotion and prayer, and it was spent in special meditations on the sufferings of Jesus. This custom is observed among Christians to this day. While Satan has induced the children of the world to enter the season of Lent not with prayer and devotion but with all the drunkenness and follies of Mardi Gras, showing that they care nothing for crucified Lord Jesus and trample His blood underfoot, the children of God have a very different spirit. They regard this worldly revelry with horror.

The children of God begin this season with prayer and singing, preparing their hearts to contemplate the suffering of their Lord. They place before their eyes the entire account of the Passion: from Gethsemane to the council, to Pilate, to Golgotha and the cross. And as they contemplate each detail, they say: “All this He did for me.”

While they participate in these sacred meditations at home or at church, they are not satisfied merely to recall the history of these events, nor does their devotion vanish with the passing of Lent. Since they intend to draw comfort from the wounds of Jesus throughout the days of their life, and most especially at the hour of their death, they remember the crucified Lord Jesus as long as they live. Such remembrance prompts them to crucify their sinful desires, so that they live no longer in the manner of the lost world with its purposeful sinning, but they die to sin and rise to new life in spirit. God blesses such diligence, zeal, and desire for the sanctification of their lives. (*Starck’s Prayer Book: Revised Concordia Edition*, CPH 2009, p. 77)

email: [rasburry@hopelutheranstl.org](mailto:rasburry@hopelutheranstl.org)  
Blog: <http://rasburrypatch.blogspot.com>

## FROM THE KANTOR

### *Gratitude Abounds*

The *Kantorei* would like to thank all those who supported the *Kantorei* during the Epiphany Benefit this past January. Your generosity is greatly appreciated and will insure that our choristers continue to have an exceptional musical education to provide life-long singers and musicians for the church.

Ms. Jeri Atwood  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Berndt  
Mr. & Mrs. Victor Dautenhahn  
Rev. & Mrs. Bart Day  
Ms. Adriane Dorr  
Rev. & Mrs. Thomas Egger  
Ms. Evelyn Fedak  
Mr. Roger Gardner  
Mr. & Mrs. Greg Gastler  
Mr. & Mrs. Ray Gawlik  
Mr. Larry Gilliland  
Mr. Alva Gross  
Mr. & Mrs. Terry Haegele  
Ms. Jayne Harper  
Mrs. Bernard Hook  
Mr. Matthew Janssen  
Mr. & Mrs. Tim Keller  
Dcs. Grace Rao  
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Reske  
Ms. Nancy Riechman  
Rev. & Mrs. Stephen Rosebrock  
Mr. & Mrs. Mike Schleicher  
Mrs. Mary Ann Scholz  
Mr. & Mrs. Joel Shoemaker  
Mr. & Mrs. William Smith  
Mrs. Olin Spyers  
Mr. & Mrs. John Stadler  
Mr. & Mrs. William Truebe  
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Vigil  
Ms. Betty Wise  
Mr. & Mrs. William Yancey  
Mr. & Mrs. Leslie Zabel

YOU HAVE APPEARED, O CHRIST, THE  
LIGHT OF LIGHT! TO YOU THE MAGI  
BRING GIFTS! ALLELUJA · ALLELUJA!



### *Psallam spiritu et mente*

I will sing with the Spirit  
and with understanding.  
1 Corinthians 14:15

### *What is the RSCM America?*

The Royal School of Church Music was founded in 1927 by Sir Sydney Nicholson, the organist at Westminster Abbey as the School of English Church Music and was an institution for training church musicians and an association of churches in England. During World War II the operations were suspended, and when it re-opened after the war it was re-opened as the Royal School of Church Music as an organization for churches to promote excellence in church music. Originally it served the state church in England, the Anglican Church. It has since grown to become an ecumenical and international organization for promoting excellence in church music throughout the world. There are members in the United Kingdom, the United States of America, Canada, Australia, South Africa, New Zealand, Australia, and Europe.

Hope joined the RSCM America in 2004. Initially it might seem odd for a Lutheran congregation to join what once was primarily a British organization. But the RSCM provides a skeleton to build a choral program on that cultivates excellence. Why shouldn't we use it? The benefits of this organization includes access to quality music for choirs, training materials for children's choirs, an examination scheme with awards (much like earning badges in Scouts), music planning resources, a quarterly professional journal, and a network of experience musicians who are eager to

help individuals and churches as they build programs. In addition they offer week long summer courses (camps) for children and adults. We attended one in Charlotte three years ago and hopefully this summer will attend one here in Saint Louis. These summer courses connect singers from all of the country for a week long experience of singing demanding music within the context of the worship service.

The RSCM America continues to be the backbone of our choral program here at Hope. You can read more about it at [www.rscmamerica.org](http://www.rscmamerica.org). Earlier this Fall I was elected to the Board of Directors for the RSCM America and was installed onto the board on Tuesday 17 January 2011 at St. Michael's Church in Orlando, Florida. In addition to serving on the board I also serve on the inter-denominational committee. I will help the board develop and improve the way it serves and meets the needs of Lutheran churches here in the United States.

### ***Seminary Kantorei in Saint Louis***

During my seminary days I sang with the *Seminary Kantorei* from Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne. This was one of the most formative experiences, both musically and pastorally for me. This is an exceptional ensemble that tours twice a year and brings to churches throughout the United States a wonderful service filled with glorious music. I am delighted that they will be in Saint Louis soon! **Mark your calendars, Friday 13 April 2012 the *Seminary Kantorei* will be singing at 7:00 p.m. in the Chapel of St. Timothy and St. Titus at Concordia Seminary in Clayton. We are all invited!**

If you are available to host a seminarian in your home on Friday night please contact me. I need to find host stays for 19 individuals. Each person needs their own bed, homes must be non-smoking, and singers will need transportation from the seminary on Friday evening and back on Saturday morning. I also need a few hands to help with an evening meal on Friday. Please contact me if you are willing to help!!

### ***Choristers' Prayer***

Bless, O Lord, us Thy servants, who minister in Thy temple. Grant that what we sing with our lips, we may believe in our hearts, and what we believe in our hearts, we may show forth in our lives. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

### ***Sunday School Opportunities***

**Who:** *Ages 3 and all the way up through high school!*

**What:** *Sunday School – God's Word Studied*

**When:** *Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m.*

**Where:** *All children and youth meet in the auditorium for a brief opening. Teachers then take them to their classes.*

**Why:** *Sunday School exists for all our children and youth at Hope. It exists to help parents teach them the faith, to teach them the story of salvation, to grow into a deeper understanding of the faith, to build friendships with other Christians, and to help them gain a deeper understanding of their life in the Church and the world.*

**Nursery Care is now offered from 9:30 – 10:15 on the second floor of the education building for young children who are one or two years old.**

#### **Current Needs:**

- 1. Volunteers to be on a substitute list.**
- 2. Teachers to trade off with current teachers so they can attend Bible class regularly.**

**Please contact Kantor Rosebrock if you are able and willing to help!**

[srosebrock@hopelutheranstl.org](mailto:srosebrock@hopelutheranstl.org)  
314 495 9235

### **EVENING PRAYER**

FOR

### **TRANSFIGURATION**

SUNG BY

# LAUDAMUS

Rev. Stephen Rosebrock, Director

Friday 17 February 2012

7:00 p.m.

Chapel of St. Timothy and St. Titus  
Concordia Seminary  
Saint Louis

## What's Up In Worship?

*"All ceremonies should serve the purpose of teaching the people what they need to know about Christ"* (Augsburg Confession, 24:3). We have enjoyed the Epiphany season and hearing God's Word on how Christ is the Savior for all nations. As we go through February, we will approach Lent, the time of preparation for our Lord's Crucifixion (Good Friday) and Resurrection (Easter Sunday). This month we come to a time called "Pre-Lent" – the so-called narthex in which we Christians pause for three Sundays before we begin our spiritual pilgrimage to Calvary in the great 40 days of Lent:

Date	Day in Church Year	Gospel Reading	Gospel Focus (Theme of the Day)
February 5	Septuagesima ("About 70 Days")	Matthew 20:1-16	<b>Wages and Grace</b> - The laborers in the vineyard and the grace of the Father, who calls unworthy sinners and makes them rich. The "wages" of those in the vineyard is but a gift of <i>grace</i> , not of their own earning.
February 12	<b>Sexagesima</b> ("About 60 Days")	Luke 8:4-15	<b>The Fourfold Field</b> - The parable of the sower and the four kinds of ground on which the good seed is cast. God sows His vibrant, life-giving Word in various "soils" of people who receive it in different ways.
February 19	<b>Quinquagesima</b> ("About 50 Days")	Luke 18:31-43	<b>Up to Jerusalem</b> - Christ opens our eyes to see Him as God's Lamb on the way to Jerusalem. As the blind man begged for Jesus' mercy, we also learn to beg for and rely on His mercy.
February 22	<b>Ash Wednesday</b>	Matthew 6:1-6; 16-21	<b>True Repentance and Fasting</b> - Jesus teaches us on our need for God's grace and how to practice our faith with humility. As Martin Luther said, <i>"When our Lord and Master Jesus Christ said, 'Repent' [Matt. 4:17], he willed the entire life of believers to be one of repentance"</i> (#1 of the 95 Theses).
February 26	<b>First Sunday in Lent</b>	Matthew 4:1-11	<b>Temptation</b> - Our Lord's temptation. Because our Lord rejects the means of "victory" that Satan offers Him (bread, miracle, power), His way leads to the cross. But by His cross Jesus conquers Satan and temptation for us.

## GOODFELLOWSHIP CLUB

The Goodfellowship Club had their Christmas Luncheon at Pietro's Restaurant on Tuesday, Dec. 13<sup>th</sup>. Mike and Arline Wilke, Bill and Joyce Yancey made the arrangement for this festive affair. In lieu of exchanging gifts with one another we made a monetary contribution for the children who use the facilities at the Lutheran Community Center

located in the Holy Cross Lutheran School building. We were informed that the money was used to purchase bags for the children to carry their lunch and each bag included a devotional message.

The Goodfellowship Club provided the funds to replace two Christmas wreaths and purchase an

additional wreath to be placed on the graves of

Pastor Roschke, Pastor Bohnert and Pastor Groth.

On Tuesday, Jan. 10<sup>th</sup> the Goodfellowship Club had their business meeting in the church basement. Marge Groth, with the assistance of Victor Dautenhahn, presented a film on the Salisbury Cathedral located in London. We then went to the Pasta House on Gravois for lunch. Victor and Sylvia Dautenhahn, Les and Doris Zabel made the arrangement for this appetizing Italian luncheon.

We cordially invite any member of our church to attend our next meeting on **Tues., Feb. 14, 2012** in the church basement at **10:30 a.m.**

Joyce Yancey, Corresp'ing Secretary

### **MR. & MRS. CLUB**

On Friday, Dec. 2 we went to Cusanelli's for dinner and then went to hear the US Air Force Band play a free holiday concert at the Scottish Rite Cathedral. The music was beautiful and enjoyed by all in attendance. Thanks to Bill and Marlane Truebe for putting this event together for us.

On Sun., Jan. 29, we went to Terrazza Grill in Arnold for our yearly "Chicken Dinner". It was delicious and everyone enjoyed the fellowship, and especially not having to prepare and serve the dinner. Thanks to Don and Rosie Fiedler for planning this event.

We are looking forward to the coming year and the program that our committee will have for us. On **Fri., Feb. 17** we will be going to the Casa Loma Ballroom on Iowa and Cherokee St. to hear a Swing Band play. Mr. Gabe Maichel, Hope member, plays in the band. Dancing starts at 8:30, lessons are from 7:45 to 8:00. Parking is available for \$5. Anyone interested in joining us for the evening, please contact Paul and Julie Vigil, 481-6483.

### **HERR ESTATE GIVES TO HOPE**

Ethel and Marian Herr, twin sisters, were life-long members at Hope Church from the time they were baptized, April 14, 1920, until they both were taken home to be with the Lord. For many, many years Ethel came in every Friday and volunteered in the church office. Marian also helped out by cataloging Pastor Asburry's library and doing some work in the church library. They were faithful

worshippers, here every Sunday. If the weather was too bad to drive they would walk to church.

We were notified in February 2011 that Hope Church was one of four organizations that was named in the estates of the Herr sisters. We were told it would be a sizeable amount and was only to be used for capital improvements (repairs, maintenance, and upkeep on our buildings.)

By December 2011 we had received the final distribution. The total amount received was \$1,067,105.73. This was in both cash and stocks. Presently the Fiscal Board is looking at forming a committee to help decide where and how to use this money, so that Hope may continue to "proclaim the excellencies of Him who called [us] out of darkness into His marvelous light." (1 Peter 2:9)

### **LCMS LIFE MINISTRIES**

LCMS Life Ministries is devoted to upholding the sanctity of human life in the church body and the culture at large. It is actively involved in a variety of domestic and international programs to support and encourage life "in the image of God." They support the work of Lutheran Caring Pregnancy Centers in St. Petersburg, Russia, Novosibirsk, Siberia, and a new one in Asia. It regularly publishes and distributes the e-newsletter, Notes for Life that is free to all subscribers through the LCMS e-news service. The newsletter covers current events in the news and life topics that affect everyone such as end-of-life decisions, promoting teen abstinence, speaking out for life, and caring for the elderly. They have a speakers' bureau to do workshops on these topics as well. The website stays current on events in the news such as health care reform and other issues that reflect our culture's attitude for life so that the church body will be better prepared to offer a witness for life. There is a free on-line library with articles on sanctity of life issues. For more information see [www.LCMS.org/life](http://www.LCMS.org/life).

## VOTERS' ASSEMBLY

The next Voters' Assembly will be on **Monday, March 12, 2012, at 7:00 p.m.** It is important for all voters to attend these meetings as we discuss the mission and future of Hope Church. Please mark this date on your calendar to attend. We also welcome new members wanting to become voters.

## SCRIP CARD NEWS

Starting in February we will be going back to the normal routine of placing orders on the *first Sunday of the month*. If you'd like to place an order, just let me know by phone or email, or when you see me Sunday mornings. Included at the back of this Newsletter is the Order Form, and visit [www.glscrip.com](http://www.glscrip.com) for a complete list of retailers. PrestoPay and ScripNow! are great, easy, secure ways to place orders. A huge *Thank You!* to all who ordered Scrip cards in 2011, generating *free* income to Hope in the amount of \$815.29! **The next scrip order will be placed February 5th**, in time for St. Valentine's Day. Will you need candy? Scrip has Fannie May and See's Candies cards, or buy a Walgreens, Walmart or Target card to pick up bags of candy, etc. Will you be going to dinner? See the various restaurant cards. Maybe a movie? There are theater tickets, too! If you would like to see a "supply" of cards readily available Sunday mornings, let me know what cards you want and we could start having a "cash 'n carry" supply Sunday mornings. See the bulletin board in the Coffee Hour room for more information on Scrip.

Thank you!

Kathi Berndt, Scrip Coordinator  
[berndtrk@sbcglobal.net](mailto:berndtrk@sbcglobal.net)  
C 314/223.0575; H 314/994.1175

## YOUNG ADULT QUARTERLIFE FELLOWSHIP

Quarterlife Fellowship was started by young adults for young adults in the Missouri District. Quarterlife Fellowship creates a place for young adults to network, make new friends, and join in fellowship, Bible studies, and much more. For information about upcoming events, contact

Nathan Maichel at [nmm79@cornell.edu](mailto:nmm79@cornell.edu). To get on the email list contact Chelsea at [chels.madd@gmail.com](mailto:chels.madd@gmail.com) or 314.629.4035. There is also a website and Facebook group.

There is a social event the second Thursday of each month at Village Lutheran Church in Ladue, 9237 Clayton Road, St. Louis, MO 63124. The next event is scheduled for **Thursday, February 9.**

There are two Bible study opportunities:

### Revelation Bible Study

Revelation is a book that has caused great confusion and concern to many, especially during difficult times. Join Pastor Hoehner as we study the Revelation of Jesus Christ to better understand this message of comfort and its urgent call to fulfill the commission our Lord has given us.

Meet at Messiah Lutheran, 2846 South Grand Boulevard, St. Louis, MO 63118-1033, at 7:00 p.m. Wednesdays. For more information about this class, you can contact Matt Hoehner [matt.hoehner@gmail.com](mailto:matt.hoehner@gmail.com).

### Village Lutheran Bible Study Reading the Gospels

This class meets the first and third Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. at Village Lutheran Church in Ladue, 9237 Clayton Road, St. Louis, MO 63124-1509. For more information about this class, you can contact James at [james.fickenscher@gmail.com](mailto:james.fickenscher@gmail.com).

## MEMBERSHIP CHANGES FOR DECEMBER 2011 & JANUARY 2012

BAPTISMS - None

TRANSFER IN - None

TRANSFER OUT - None

REMOVED AT OWN REQUEST - STUCKE, John and Sue, John and Amy at their own request , 12/9/2011

CALLED TO THEIR ETERNAL HOME - None

WEDDINGS - None

## CHANGES TO 2011 TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

The following changes should be made in your Hope Church directory:

**DAY, Bart & Julie** - 12910 Baalbek Dr., 63127  
314-270-3435

**JOHNSON, Amy** - 10205 Little Rd., 63126

**MAGNUSSON, Elizabeth**-13032 W Estero Ln.  
Litchfield Pk, AZ 85340

**REISER, Kami** - 4005 Clearpoint Ln., 63123

**SERINA, Rick & Chris**-5 Founders Way, #A  
63105



