



**Bethany Lutheran Outlook
February 2010**

Serving God, Community, and Individuals



**For I am the Lord, your God,
who takes hold of your right hand
and says to you,
Do not fear; I will help you.**

Isaiah 41: 13



PASTOR'S REFLECTIONS

After Walter Brueggemann spoke here at Bethany in 2007, there was some discussion at a council meeting about the possibility of bringing other speakers here every year or every couple of years, to really help Bethany to be known as something of an educational center in this area. With the help of the synod and Lutheran Campus Ministry we have been able to put together another event featuring Dr. Audrey West, a Bible professor on the faculty of the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago. She will be speaking here at Bethany on **Tuesday, February 2nd at 7pm** and I would strongly encourage you to be in attendance.

Audrey will be speaking about the Bible and how it is being understood and interpreted these days. Biblical interpretation is at the heart of many of the social issues that confront the church, and she will talk about ways that the Bible can be used to promote understanding rather than conflict. She is very gifted in her ability to present what can be rather complicated material in ways that make it engaging, easily understood and fun regardless of how much or how little you know about the Bible.

Dr. West is currently an adjunct faculty member at LSTC but was full time until a couple of years ago when she decided that living half a country away from her husband (who teaches at the Moravian Seminary in Bethlehem, PA) wasn't really a good thing. Now she is involved in writing and also speaking and teaching at various church events, regional gatherings and synod assemblies (she was the keynote speaker at the NGLS assembly last spring). The couple of years that I interviewed internship candidates in Chicago virtually every one cited Audrey as one of their favorite professors. In addition to that she is a delightful person! Kathy and I hosted her last spring and greatly enjoyed getting to know her.

In addition to her presentation at Bethany, Dr. West will also speak at NMU on Monday, February 1st at 7pm in the Brule Room of the University Center. In this talk she will talk more about environmental issues and what questions biblical ethics raises about decisions that are made concerning the environment. Both this presentation and the one at Bethany are free and open to everyone.

The turnout of Bethany people for the Brueggemann event was outstanding and I hope we can duplicate that! I can guarantee an informative, thought provoking and engaging presentation for those who come (and of course there will be coffee and snacks as well!)

Mark your calendar; plan to attend and invite someone else!

**Dr. Audrey West – Scholar in Residence
January 30 – February 2**



Monday, February 1 -- 7 pm @ Northern Michigan University in the University Center's Brule Room

Topic: Presentation of questions the Bible raises regarding care of the environment and how decisions impact the environment are made and the spiritual dimension of such issues

**Tuesday, February 2 -- 10 am to 2 pm @ Messiah Lutheran Church in Marquette
CONTINUING EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY!!!**

Workshop Topic: "Preaching the Texts from Luke during Lent and Beyond."

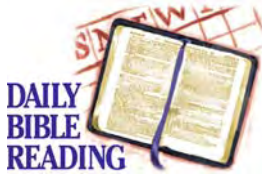
Lunch will be included as part of the workshop. A donation of \$15 is suggested to help cover the cost of the lunch. Preregistration is not required but is helpful in planning the meal. For questions or to register contact Pastor Warren Geier (485-4351 or wlgeier@charterinternet.com)

Tuesday, February 2 -- 7 pm @ Bethany Lutheran Church in Ishpeming

Topic: Biblical Interpretation at the Center of Current Social Issues – Dr. West will speak on how the Bible can be faithfully read and interpreted in ways that promote understanding and toleration of differing viewpoints rather than having it be a point of conflict.

**A special thank you to Bethany Lutheran Church,
Lutheran Campus Ministry and the
Northern Great Lakes Synod
For sponsoring this program.**

DAILY LECTIONARY



The foundational premise of this set of daily readings is their relationship to the Sunday lectionary. The readings are chosen so that the days leading up to Sunday (Thursday through Saturday) prepare for the Sunday readings. The days flowing out from Sunday (Monday through Wednesday) reflect upon the Sunday readings.

Daily Lectionary for February

1	Psalm 56	1 Kings 17:8-16	1 Corinthians 2:6-16
2	Psalm 56	2 Kings 5:1-14	1 Corinthians 14:13-25
3	Psalm 56	Jeremiah 1:11-19	Luke 19:41-44
4	Psalm 138	Numbers 20:22-29	Acts 9:19b-25
5	Psalm 138	Numbers 27:12-23	Acts 9:26-31
6	Psalm 138	Judges 3:7-11	Luke 4:42-44
7	Fifth Sunday after Epiphany		
	Isaiah 6:1-13	Psalm 138	1 Corinthians 15:1-11 Luke 5:1-11
8	Psalm 115	Judges 5:1-11	1 Corinthians 14:26-40
9	Psalm 115	1 Samuel 9:15-10:1b	1 Timothy 3:1-9
10	Psalm 115	Isaiah 8:1-15	Luke 5:27-32
11	Psalm 99	Deuteronomy 9:1-5	Acts 3:11-16
12	Psalm 99	Deuteronomy 9:6-14	Acts 10:1-8
13	Psalm 99	Deuteronomy 9:15-24	Luke 10:21-24
14	Transfiguration of Our Lord		
	Exodus 34:29-35	Psalm 99	2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2 Luke 9:28-43
15	Psalm 35:11-28	Exodus 35:1-29	Acts 10:9-23a
16	Psalm 35:11-28	Ezekiel 1:1-2:1	Acts 10:23b-33

17 Ash Wednesday

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 Psalm 51:1-17 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10 Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

18 Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16

Exodus 5:10-23

Acts 7:30-34

19 Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16

Exodus 6:1-13

Acts 7:35-42

20 Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

John 12:27-36

21 First Sunday in Lent

Deut. 26:1-11 Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16 Romans 10:8b-13 Luke 4:1-13

22 Psalm 17

1 Chronicles 21:1-17

1 John 2:1-6

23 Psalm 17

Zechariah 3:1-10

2 Peter 2:4-21

24 Psalm 17

Job 1:1-22

Luke 21:34-22:6

25 Psalm 27

Genesis 13:1-7, 14-18

Philippians 3:2-12

26 Psalm 27

Genesis 14:17-24

Philippians 3:17-20

27 Psalm 27

Psalm 118:26-29

Matthew 23:37-39

28 Second Sunday in Lent

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-28 Psalm 27 Philippians 3:17-4:1 Luke 13:31-35

Thank God for What You Have

If you woke this morning with more health than illness, you are more blessed than 6 million people who won't survive the next seven days.



If you have never experienced warfare, imprisonment, torture or starvation, you are more blessed than 500 million people in this world.

If you can attend a church service without fear of persecution or arrest or torture, you are more blessed than 3 million people in the world.

If you have food in your frig, clothes on your back, a roof over your head and a place to sleep, you are richer than 75 percent of the world.

If you have money in the bank or your wallet or spare change in your pocket, you are among the top 8 percent of the world's wealthy.



The Church Working for the Sake of the World

Haiti Earthquake Relief

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

The images of the despair and destruction in the aftermath of the earthquake in Haiti continue to overwhelm us, but they also call forth our response of prayer and generosity.

Paul's letter to the Romans gives us words of comfort and hope. Paul writes: We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God (Romans 8:22-27).

Thank you for continuing to hold in prayer the people in Haiti and all those who are working to bring relief. Thank you for your generous financial gifts.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) is already working through long-standing partnerships with The Lutheran World Federation and Lutheran World Relief to provide emergency food, water, shelter and medical supplies. This church is uniquely positioned to provide immediate and ongoing help. The ELCA has committed an initial \$250,000 from ELCA International Disaster Response, and we've authorized an additional \$500,000 as congregations respond both to the immediate needs and long-term rebuilding efforts.



For those of you who would like to support these relief efforts, I encourage you to visit [this Web page](http://www.elca.org/haitiearthquake) (www.elca.org/haitiearthquake) or call 800-638-3522.

One hundred percent of all gifts made to ELCA Disaster Response, designated for Haiti Earthquake Relief, will be used for immediate relief and ongoing recovery. This is what it means to be the church together in mission for the sake of the world.

I invite you to pray:

Merciful God, hear our cry for mercy in the wake of the earthquake. Reveal your presence in the midst of our suffering. Help us to trust in your promises of hope and life so that desperation and grief will not overtake us. Come quickly to our aid that we may know peace and joy again. Strengthen us in this time of trial with the assurance of hope we know in the death and resurrection of our Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.

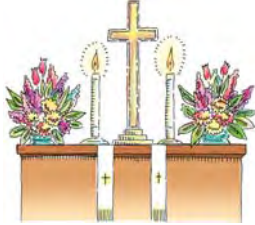
In God's grace,



The Rev. Mark S. Hanson
Presiding Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



Thrivent has pledged to match \$1 for every \$2 their members contribute, up to a total contribution of \$1 million from Thrivent. To make your matching gift (up to \$250 per person), go to [this Web page](http://www.thrivent.com/helpinghaiti) (www.thrivent.com/helpinghaiti).



Worship and Music



Bethany Choir Needs Your Help

Did you know that Elvis Presley and Mahalia Jackson started out singing in their church choirs? We don't guarantee that you will end up as a musical wonder, but we do know that you will enjoy trying. Empty chairs have been showing up in the choir loft over that past several years. Empty chairs are not good.

We at Bethany are very proud of our music ministry. We are a group of dedicated choristers, but we would welcome help in all sections of the choir, especially altos and sopranos. In a group of our size, an additional one or two singers can make a great impact.

If you are an alto or soprano singer, please consider helping us out. Who knows, you may become the next Susan Boyle!

Bob Bucan

A Call for Assistant Ministers

As a member of the Board of Worship and Music, I have taken on the job of arranging for assistant ministers for our worship services. I would like to gather 25 to 30 people who would participate on a rotation basis throughout the year. With this number of volunteers, a person would be asked to help 2 (or 3) times per year. Anyone who is a confirmed member can be an assistant minister. Your job would be to read the lessons and prayers and help with Holy Communion. While robes are available for the assistants, wearing the robe is optional. Please help. If you can participate, please contact me at 485-1625 or email me at linkarzig@netscape.com. Thanks.

Linda Dahl

**You Can Make a Difference
...With Just a Little Extra Nothing**

Not too long ago in a place not too far away, a field mouse asked a wise old owl what is the weight of a snowflake. "Why nothing more than nothing," answered the owl.

The mouse went on to tell the owl about the time he was resting on a branch in a fir tree, counting each snowflake until the number was exactly 3 million, 471 thousand, 952. Then with the settling of the very next flake—**crack**. The branch suddenly snapped, tumbling the mouse and the snow to the ground. "Humph ...Such was the weight of nothing," said the mouse.



So the next time you think your contributions, your acts of charity, your works for justice, your gifts of love, and your talents are nothing, or that they are small in comparison to those of others, remember that when one is added to another, and then to another and so forth, great things can happen from nothing. In the same way, what seems to be ordinary can be transformed into something extraordinary with just a little extra nothing.

What Can You Do?

You could....

- Greet members and visitors to Bethany
- Donate to Haiti Disaster Relief
- Be an assisting minister
- Serve on one of the church's Boards
- Stitch a quilt
- Sing in the choir
- Be an usher
- Be on the altar guild
- Contribute to the Noisy Offering
- Be a Sunday School teacher
- Serve for Sunday coffee
- Be an acolyte
- Help make, serve, or clean up after a church meal
- Help in the nursery
- Contribute to the Souper Bowl of Caring
- Join a circle
- Come to church
- Give blood
- Shovel someone's walk
- And the list goes on...and on...and on....

Would You Be That Next Snowflake?

Enjoy the Poetry of Hymns

**“Come unto Me,
all you who labor and are heavy laden,
and I will give you rest.**

Matthew 11:28

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

I heard the voice of Jesus say, “Come unto Me and rest;
Lay down, thou weary one, lay down Thy head upon My breast.”
I came to Jesus as I was, weary and worn and sad;
I found in Him a resting place, and He has made me glad.

I heard the voice of Jesus say, “Behold, I freely give
The living water; thirsty one, stoop down, and drink, and live.”
I came to Jesus, and I drank of that life giving stream;
My thirst was quenched, my soul revived, and now I live in Him.

I heard the voice of Jesus say, “I am this dark world’s Light;
Look unto Me, thy morn shall rise, and all thy day be bright.”
I looked to Jesus, and I found in Him my Star, my Sun;
And in that light of life I’ll walk, till traveling days are done.

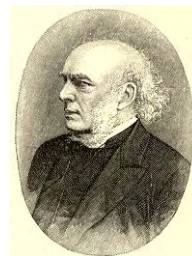
— Horatius Bonar (1808-1889)
ELW #332

**“But whoever drinks of the water
that I shall give him will never thirst.
But the water that I shall give him
will become in him a fountain of water
springing up into everlasting life.”**

John 4:14

Horatius Bonar

Anyone can work with adults, but it takes a special person to communicate with children. Among the early hymnists, none connected with youngsters better than Horatius Bonar, “the prince of Scottish hymnists.”



Horatius was born just before Christmas in 1808, one of eleven children. Two of his siblings—John and Andrew—also became outstanding preachers. After studying for the ministry at the University of Edinburgh and serving an internship at Leith, Horatius was ordained and began pastoring in Kelso. Later he moved to Edinburgh where he became one of Scotland’s most famous pulpiteers.

He began writing hymns while at Kelso, and many of them were especially for children. Later, in his church in Edinburgh where only the Scottish version of the Psalms was sung, only the children were allowed to sing his hymns. On one occasion in the adult services, two of his church leaders stormed out in protest when a hymn was announced. But the children never protested. They loved his visits to Sunday School when he would lead them in exuberant singing.

Horatius wrote, “I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say” for his Sunday School children in 1846. He based his three verses on three wonderful promises of Jesus in Matthew 11:28, John 4:14, and John 8:12. The first half of each stanza echoes our Lord’s promise, and the last half of each stanza frames our response.

Where did his love for children come from? He and his wife had lost five of their children in rapid succession. But God gave him hundreds of children in his Sunday Schools. And that’s not all...

Many years later, a surviving Bonar daughter was widowed and returned home to live with her parents. She had five young children. Writing to a friend, Horatius said, “God took five children from life some years ago, and He has given me another five to bring up for Him in my old age.”

**Then Jesus spoke to them again,
saying,
“I am the light of the world.
He who follows Me
shall not walk in darkness,
but have the light of life.”
John 8: 12**

From *Then Sings My Soul* by Robert J. Morgan



Wednesday Lenten Services Will Highlight

**The People VS. Jesus:
A Legal Cross Examination of John,
Mary Magdalene, Herod, James and Mary**

This series of five Lenten plays was adapted by Pastor Edward F Markquart of Grace Lutheran Church of Des Moines, Washington. In this series, you will find a courtroom scene, an authentic judge, a bailiff and a court reporter. There is a prosecuting attorney and a defense attorney. Into this scene and situation, witnesses from the life of Jesus Christ are brought to testify about him. The action of the drama is the questioning and cross questioning of the Biblical witnesses who saw the life of Jesus.



**February 17
6:30 pm**

**Lenten Soup
Supper
5:30 pm**



Lenten Soup Suppers - 5:30 each Wednesday of Lent

The various Boards of Bethany will provide the soups each Wednesday of Lent.

Feb. 17—Christian Education

March 10—Worship & Music

Feb. 24—Social Ministry

March 17—Council

March 3—Finance / Property

March 24—Stewardship / Personnel

Souper Bowl of Caring - February 7, 2010



On Sunday, February 7, 2010, nearly 100 million Americans are expected to tune in to watch the NFL Super Bowl. Many will host or attend parties with abundant food, friendship, and fellowship. At the same time, nearly 1 billion people around the world go hungry.

This Super Bowl Sunday, join more than 2,000 Lutheran youth groups to do something to change all of that.

The Souper Bowl of Caring is a youth-led ecumenical and grassroots movement that unites youth under a single cause: to end hunger. Collectively, this movement raised over \$10.35 million for hunger-related charities in 2009. And ELCA Lutherans raised nearly \$900,000! But that's not all. Youth across the country also collected more than 4.5 million pounds of food and provided countless hours of service

Join other ELCA youth groups and congregations and take part in the 2010 Souper Bowl of Caring.



Third Annual Pie Social February 13 @ 2 pm

The third annual Pie Social will be a great place to come on a cold winter February day. Indulge in a homemade piece of pie with ice cream/cool whip accompanied by juice or a hot cup of coffee or tea. Invite your family and friends for this special event.

Ladies and gents, put on those aprons and make us a pie (or two). Help us make this a day of great pies and socializing.

A donation of \$3.00 is requested. Proceeds will go towards the heating fund.

Kids - Did you know?

Bible Verse to Memorize

**“Come unto Me,
all you who labor and are heavy laden,
and I will give you rest.
Matthew 11:28**



February Worship Assistants

February 7

Assisting Minister - Sandee Sundquist
Acolytes - Megan Hough & Nora Seppanen
Altar - Clara Carlson
Greeters -
Coffee Hosts -
Flowers - In memory of Inez Simons by
Colleen & Ray Sundblad
Nursery - Mindy Harrington
Bread - Bob Bucan

February 14

Assisting Minister -
Acolytes - Natalee Dobson & Kara
Harrington
Altar - Marian Medlyn & Diana Sandstom
Greeters - Paul, Diana & friends
Coffee Hosts - Social Ministry
Flowers - In memory of Karl Dahl by Linda Dahl
Nursery - Kristina Mattson
Bread - Kay Frederickson

February 21

Assisting Minister -
Acolytes - Courtney Allen & Christina Mariani
Altar - Marilyn Pontti
Greeters -
Coffee Hosts - Allen & Gerry Maki
(60th Anniversary)
Flowers - No flowers during Lent
Nursery - Tori Mattson
Bread - Ann Gonyea

Thank You!

February 28

Assisting Minister - Tom Ryan
Acolytes - Joshua Argall & Katelyn
Ombrello
Altar - Sue Ryan
Greeters -
Coffee Hosts -
Flowers - No flowers during Lent
Nursery - Max Alexander
Bread - Kay Chartre

February 17 Ash Wednesday (6:30 pm)

Assisting Minister -
Acolytes -

February Ushers:

Jaak Liivoja
Mike Richards
Tom Ryan
Ted Swanson
Jim Penhale
John Waters
Paul Waters









March Ushers:

John Beerling
Jerry Hager
Bill Heavyside
Robert Maki
Donald Meyer
John Pontti
Dan Sleeman



February 2010



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<p>1 11:00 Bible Study 7:00 Prayer Shawl 7:00 A. West @ NMU</p>  <p>No Monday Worship</p>	<p>2 9:00 Quilters 10:00 A. West Workshop @ Messiah 3:30-6:00 Lay School</p>  <p>7:00 Property 7:00 A. West @ Bethany</p>	<p>3 5:15 Bells 6:30 Choir</p>	<p>4 6:30 Bible Study</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>
<p>7 9:00 Sunday School 9:30 Choir 10:30 Worship (Annual Meeting to follow worship service) <i>SOUPER BOWL OF CARING</i></p> 	<p>8 11:00 Bible Study 6:30 Worship 7:00 Worship & Music</p>	<p>9 9:00 Quilters 1:30 Social Ministry 3:30-8:30 Lay School</p>	<p>10 10:00 Men's Group 5:15 Bells 6:30 Choir</p>	<p>11 6:30 Bible Study</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13 2:00 Pie Social</p> 
<p>14 9:00 Sunday School 9:30 Choir 10:30 Worship 6:00 Confirmation @ Faith</p>	<p>15 11:00 Bible Study 6:30 Worship 7:30 Council</p>	<p>16 9:00 Quilters 3:30-8:30 Lay School 7:00 Joy Circle</p>	<p>17 ASH WEDNESDAY 5:30 Soup Supper 6:30 Ash Wed. Service 7:30 Choir</p> 	<p>18 6:30 Bible Study</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>
<p>21 9:00 Sunday School 9:30 Choir 10:30 Worship</p>	<p>22 11:00 Bible Study 6:30 Worship</p>	<p>23 9:00 Quilters 3:30-8:30 Lay School</p>	<p>24 10:00 Men's Group 1:30 Mary Circle 5:00 Bells 5:30 Soup Supper 6:30 Lenten Service 7:30 Choir; Martha Circle</p>	<p>25 6:30 Bible Study</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>
<p>28 9:00 Sunday School 9:30 Choir 10:30 Worship</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">  <p>Don't Miss This Opportunity!! Dr. Audrey West – Scholar in Residence January 30 – February 2</p> </div>				<p>Deadline for March Outlook Thursday, Feb.18</p>	

Happy Birthday!

- 2 William Heavyside
- 2 Joshua Niemela
- 2 Aili Toivonen
- 3 Sharon Argall
- 3 Megan Barton
- 4 Eric Beinlich
- 4 Victoria Rankin
- 6 Zoe Argall
- 7 Rachel Argall
- 8 Kelly Anderson
- 8 Kayla Koski
- 9 Carrie Goldsworthy
- 9 Geraldine Maki
- 9 Kenneth Carlson
- 10 Ronald Jensen
- 11 Abigail Bruhnke
- 11 Renee Rankin
- 11 Diana Sandstrom
- 13 Linda Bertucci
- 13 Harriet Maki
- 13 Debbie Snell
- 14 Thomas Varda
- 16 Edward Vickstrom
- 18 John Beerling
- 18 Michael Flynn
- 18 Lindsey Stahlmann
- 19 Marvin Toivonen
- 23 Seth Bjerne
- 23 Denise Kaukola
- 23 Victoria Mattson
- 25 Teckla Holmgren
- 27 John Carlson
- 27 Garret Frustaglio



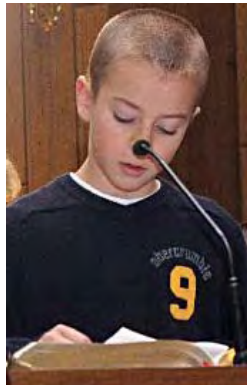
Happy Anniversary!

Jerry & Roberta Luokkala
2/13/1971 39 years

James & Holly Bjerne
2/14/1981 29 years

Allen & Geri Maki
2/18/1950 60 years





Dear GOD,
Instead of letting people die and having
to make new ones, why don't you just
keep the ones you have now?

Jane



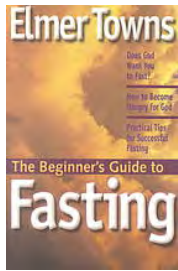
New Books For Lent

By Keenan Tunnell



We'll soon begin another Lent, our annual journey to the Cross and Easter. I've chosen books in the following three categories and presented one title from each here followed by a list of the titles available on the Library Kiosk: Fasting, the Way of the Cross, and Lenten Meditations. All of these have been traditional ways of reliving the Lenten Journey—I hope you'll investigate one of them this holy season.

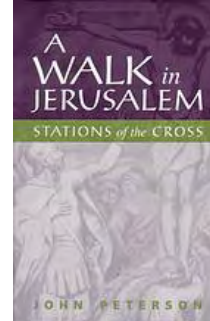
Towns, Elmer. **Beginner's Guide to Fasting. (248.4)**



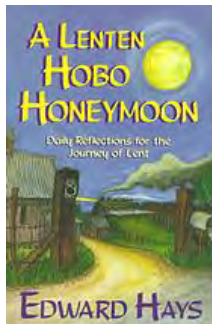
Since Old Testament times, God's people have engaged in the spiritual tradition of fasting: going without food for a predetermined length of time to accomplish an important purpose or goal. Fasting can be done for any number of reasons: to get to know God better, to wait on God for an answer to prayer, to listen to God, to worship Him. In these pages, you'll discover why you should fast, how to prepare for your first fast, what kind of fasts to follow, how to get started, and what to expect after you are finished. Learn how you can master this powerful spiritual discipline.

Peterson, John. **A walk in Jerusalem; stations of the cross (242.4)**

This reworking of the centuries old ritual of the Stations of the Cross is illustrated with a map and 14 photographs as helpful guides to the Passion story, plus a meditation and brief liturgy to apply each "station" to today's world. A brief introduction also provides some of the history surrounding the development of this devotion.



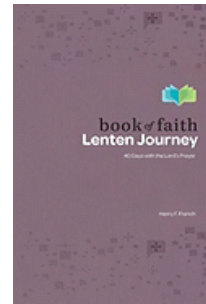
Hays, Edward. **A Lenten hobo honeymoon (242.34)**



"...Jesus journeyed through life as a hobo, as one with 'nowhere to lay his head.' Lent, likewise, calls us to be hobos... HOmeward Bound pilgrims...who cannot rest until we rest in God, our final destination....Hoboes have secret signs...[and so the book] is filled with these hobo markings, which help point the reader along the path to a fruitful Lent, all the way to a joyous Easter...." (from the back cover)

French, Henry F. **Lenten Journey: 40 Days with the Lord's Prayer.** (226)

In a few short lines, the Lord's Prayer contains the heart and soul of Jesus' teaching. If you are interested in what God wants for you and what He wants from you, then you can do no better than spend forty days with Jesus in his profound prayer. (NOTE: this is one of the first books published as part of the Book of Faith initiative of the ELCA. It's a very deep look into the Lord's Prayer.)



A List of Related Titles

Food/Fasting:

Fasting for Spiritual Breakthrough (Towns)

Power of Prayer and Fasting (Floyd)

Food for Life (Jung)

Sharing Food (Jung)

What to Eat (Nestle)

Omnivore's Dilemma (Pollan)

God's Chosen Fast (Wallis)

Good Eating (Webb)



Meditations:

The Journey Beckons (the Way of the Cross) (Ashcroft)

Chocolate for Lent (Brand)



A Prayer for Lent

Lord Jesus, I would like to be able to do myself the things I help others do. I can give them confidence I do not have, and I can quiet their anxieties, but not my own. What do I lack? Or is it the way I am made? I want to be free to move from place to place without fear, and I want to face the things to be done without panic. ...

I like to think that you can be with me, and in me, and that with your help I can do better. This is what I hope and ask for.

Amen.





THE LUTHERAN

The Lutheran is the official publication of the ELCA. Many members of Bethany have personal subscriptions, but for those who don't, the church purchases a number of copies each month and makes them available to interested members. If you haven't taken advantage of these free issues, you are missing some interesting reading. To let you know what you are missing, I will highlight what's in the current issue and maybe entice you to have a look. . It's worth the effort just to look at "The Light Side" and to read the Presiding Bishop's final note (it's always good!)

The Cover Story of January's issue is the global food crisis. The statistics alone are appalling, with over a billion people going hungry in 2009, an increase of 100 million over 2008! The article is followed by a companion piece about the Lutheran response and a number of suggestions of ways individuals and groups can help, especially by supporting ELCA World Hunger (www.elca.org/hunger). A "Finding Hope" Study Guide follows with a number of exercises to make the issue of hunger more personal and to give it a Christian focus. Related articles include "Wholesome Bread", "Fill It Up", and the presiding bishop's letter relating the hunger issue to the Lord's Prayer and the true meaning of "daily bread."

The first section of the magazine is News—news of the ELCA and the church around the world. This issue discusses budget and staff cuts in the ELCA, synod elections, noteworthy activities in a number of ELCA congregations, actions of the Lutheran church in Norway and Kenya, and other current religious happenings.

The Features section includes an article related to the Book of Faith initiative, one on Lutherans in Peru, one on the true meaning of the Hebrew phrase "Jealous God", one on facing anxiety, as well as others.

In Departments, there is always a letter from the editor (this one refers to reduced finances both for The Lutheran and the ELCA related to the current economic situation), a "Best this Month" referring to films, books and television, and the always interesting/controversial "Letters" section. One segment entitled "My View" gives readers the opportunity (in 400 words or less) to submit their opinions on a current societal event or issue or on issues in the life of this church (the ELCA). These views don't necessarily reflect those of The Lutheran or positions of the ELCA. The "Light Side" is a page of cartoons and short tales mostly relating the things kids say.

Space permitting, I will try to do a brief summary of the current issue of The Lutheran each month in Bethany's Outlook. Free copies are available either on the Library Desk or the magazine rack (also back issues) or you can go online (www.thelutheran.org,) to sign up for free online access and enjoy being informed about your church and the world.

Keenan Tunnell



Advent Dinner is Huge Success

Bethany's Board of Evangelism sponsored the Advent Dinner and received almost \$680.00 in donations. All proceeds will be given to the general fund of Bethany. Thanks to all who attended this delicious meal and donated to our church.

Also, a BIG thank you to the following outgoing members for their years of dedicated service to Bethany.

- Jim and Holly Bjorne - 4 yrs
- Bob and Peggy Clark - 10 yrs
- Marilyn Pontti - 16 yrs
- Kim Skewis - 6 yrs
- Paul and Diana Sandstrom - 6 yrs



What a privilege and joy to work with these wonderful folks over the last 6 years.

Paul Sandstrom



Winter Is Here

The snow arrived later than usual this year, but its onslaught was inevitable. If you live in Michigan, especially the UP, you know the snow is just part of living here. It's easy to identify those that live here if you can relate to any of these.



You might live in Michigan's Upper Peninsula....

- If you consider it a sport to gather your food by drilling through 18 inches of ice and sitting there all day hoping that the food will swim by



- If you're proud that your region makes the national news 96 nights each year because Pellston is the coldest spot in the nation
- If you instinctively walk like a penguin for five months out of the year
- If your dad's suntan stops at a line curving around the middle of his forehead
- If you have worn shorts and a coat at the same time
- You measure distance in hours
- You know several people who have hit a deer more than once.
- You often switch from "heat" to "A/C" in the same day
- You can drive 65 mph through 2 feet of snow during a raging blizzard, without flinching
- You carry jumper cables in your car, and your girlfriend knows how to use them
- You design your kid's Halloween costume to fit over a snowsuit
- Driving is better in winter because the potholes are filled with snow
- You know all 4 seasons: almost winter, winter, still winter and road construction
- You have more miles on your snow blower than your car.
- If you remember wearing boots on the last day of school
- You find 0° "a little chilly."
- You know that UP is a place, not a direction





Have a Heart

Valentines of every size and description adorn store windows and other places of business this time of year. The holiday has become a time for love to be enthroned as a virtue, with the heart symbolizing the romance of our lives.

But the heart symbolizes not only love, but life itself! Without a heart, our bodies cannot survive.

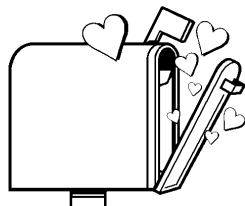
Consider God's words to Samuel: "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart" (1 Samuel 16:7, NRSV).

The heart — that inner countenance — shows what we really are. Samuel was to seek one of the sons of Jesse to be the new king. David, even though he was the weakest physical specimen, was the one selected. His heart was great.

Love looks deeper than outward appearances, and we can thank God for that. Don't be swayed by mere valentines — have a heart!



Send a Special Valentine....



Teckla Holmgren
Doreen Brown
Steve Leverton
Barb Crabb
Anita Liljequist
Martha Ulrickson
Joyce Lehto
Marjorie Rosten



Luke Smetters Ordained



Luke Smetters, an intern at Bethany during 2007-2008, was ordained into the ministry of Word and Sacrament. Having been called to serve Wiota Lutheran Church (Wiota, Wisconsin), a service of Holy Communion with the Rite of Ordination took place Saturday, January 23, 2010, at 4:00 pm at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Chicago, Illinois. The Reverend Bruce H. Burnside, bishop of the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin (ELCA), presided. Reverend Lowell G. Almen preached. A reception followed the service.

Congratulations can be sent to Luke at the following address:

Wiota Lutheran Church
6682 Highway 78N
South Wayne, WI 53587



Congratulations!

Kaye Frederickson was chosen as Bell Memorial Hospital's January Volunteer of the Month. Thank you, Kaye, for making a difference in our community.



Bethany Choir Processes During Advent





What's Up with WELCA?

Shoebox Ministry Update

Operation Christmas Child 2009 was a successful joint effort between Bethany and Faith Lutheran Churches. An amazing 134 shoeboxes were first delivered to Silver Creek Church in Norway, Michigan. Then on Sunday, November 22, Federal Express delivered them to Boone, North Carolina. This Christmas, because of your kindness, 134 hurting, needy children learned about the love of our Savior and received a box full of wonderful surprises. Thank you to everyone who prayed, packed boxes, and donated items or shipping money for our joint Shoebox Ministry



WELCA'S Year-End Expenditures

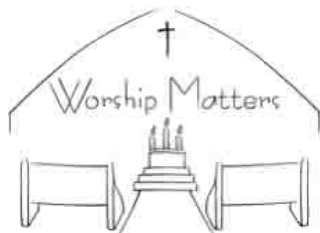
In early January, members of WELCA approved the final expenditures for 2009. From WELCA'S Outreach and Congregational Funds, members approved the following:

- \$200 - Beacon House
- \$200 - Women's Center in Marquette
- \$500 - Kitchen Fund
- \$500 - Pastor's Discretionary Fund



Campbell Soup Label Collection - Bethany is collecting Campbell Soup Labels {the UPC code part only}. The labels will help support the Navajo Evangelical Lutheran Mission in Rock Point, AZ. Bring your UPC codes to place in the basket by the office door. A list of eligible products will be posted there. This is an easy way for all of us to help out others. Debbie Cain will be coordinating this project.

Council Highlights



- Approved request by Fortune Lake to use kitchen and facilities on March 7
- Lutheran Social Services is seeking funds
- The Synod's Answer the Call program for funding seminarians will be added to Annual Meeting agenda
- Pastor conducted the funeral of Seth Johnson
- Pastor will be hosting Dr. Audrey West during her visit; Dr. West will speak at Bethany on Feb. 2. Bethany, NGLS, and Finlandia University are interested in continuing an ongoing speaker program perhaps on a biennial basis.
- Discussion of the budget

Annual Meeting Rescheduled



Bethany's Annual Meeting has been rescheduled for February 7 after the worship service. Please plan to attend.

Thank You

Members of Bethany, thank you for your support for all our efforts in 2009. The Board of Social Ministry works hard to have a positive impact of our church community, our community at large, and the world in which we live. We could not do our work without you and your generous contributions. Thank you also to Marian Medlyn, the outgoing chairperson, for her admirable leadership.

Rae Elliot
Chairperson of the Board of Social Ministry



To All at Bethany,

Thank you for all your support. You mean so much to me.

Barb Lucas and the family of David Alan Lucas



The Children's Bible in a Nutshell The Life of Jesus



Jesus was a great man. He healed many leopards and even preached to some Germans on the Mount. But the Democrats and all those guys put Jesus on trial before Pontius the Pilot. Pilot didn't stick up for Jesus. He just washed his hands instead.



Anyways, Jesus died for our sins, then came back to life again. He went up to Heaven but will be back at the end of the Aluminum. His return is foretold in the book of Revolution.

The End



**The February's Noisy Offering
will go to Lutheran Disaster Relief /
Lutheran Social Services.**

Thanks to everyone for your generosity!



**The Memorial Committee
would like to thank all those
who gave memorials in the
name of....**

**Paul Blewett
Seth Johnson**



A Special Invitation



God has blessed us with 60
years together and we would
like to invite everyone to have
coffee and cake with us after
church on Sunday, February 21.

Allen and Gerry Maki



Bethany's Website

www.bethanyishpeming.org

**Fair Trade Coffee, Tea, Cocoa and Chocolate
Are Available at Bethany**



Café Salvador Coffee
Organic Decaf Coffee
Whole Bean Coffee
Whole Bean Decaf
Teas
Hot cocoa
Baking Cocoa
Milk Chocolate Bar
Dark Chocolate Mini Bars

From Small Farmers With Love

Keep In Your Prayers

- Remember our home-bound and nursing home residents: Teckla Holmgren (home), Barbara Crabb (Eastwood), Martha Ulrickson (Valente), Anita Liljequist (Mather), Doreen Brown (Valente), Joyce Lehto (Mill Creek), Marjorie Rosten (home)
- Pauline Toivonen
- Karen Johnson and family and friends who mourn the loss of Seth Johnson
- Vera Blewett and family and friends who mourn the loss of Paul Blewett
- Marian Franti
- Steven Leverton
- Don Doney
- Lois Ryan
- Jim Chapman
- Paul Blomgren
- Nancy Swanson
- Nick Chartre
- Those in the military that they may remain safe



Members of Bethany.

Thank you for all the prayers, cards, and comforting words during such a difficult time. They meant everything to me

**Kay Chartre
And the family of Dorothy Lanyon**



Contributions to and ideas for the newsletter can be made by contacting **Linda Dahl** by phone, e-mail, or by dropping a note in the newsletter mailbox at church.

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Rev. Warren Geier, Pastor
Home Phone: 485-4218
E-mail: wlgeier@charterinternet.com

Parish Planning Council:
Exec. Director, Tom Ryan
Christian Education, Brent Clark
Finance, Cheryl Sleeman
Personnel, Sandee Sundquist
Property, Bill Heavyside
Social Ministry, Rae Elliot
Stewardship, John Pontti
Worship & Music, Ann Gonyea
Youth member, Alexandra Kitchen

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