



West Clermont Lutheran Church

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April 2021 Newsletter



From Lay Minister Mike: Death on a Cross

As April begins, we are in the darkest times of Holy Week. Maundy Thursday and Good Friday are a very somber way to start a month. It would be nice to just skip forward to Easter, but we have to contemplate Jesus' death before we can celebrate his resurrection.

Why did Jesus have to die? In Mark 15:34 Jesus cries out, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" and then in verse 27 "Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last." Why did this have to happen this way?

This is a very tough question to contemplate. While Jesus is truly the Son of God, he was also fully man during his time on earth. The crucifixion would have been a very horrible way to die and his wailing on the cross was from fully experiencing human death. A short answer to the question about why it had to happen would be that it fulfilled prophecies from the Old Testament. I know that is not a very satisfying answer to "Why" so I will try to go deeper into an answer. Jesus came to earth to forgive sin unconditionally for God. We as stubborn, sinful, prideful humans refused to be forgiven and moved to kill Jesus, so we are no longer reminded of our sinful selves. Because of our sin, Jesus dies for our sins. Now we no longer have just the sin of Adam, now we have the sin of killing Jesus. God, who is intent on showing mercy and forgiveness, now has a concrete reason to forgive us unconditionally. Imagine the kind of forgiveness it takes to forgive someone who kills your Son.

When we accept that forgiveness, our old selves die, and our new selves rise up in the name of Jesus.

If God can forgive what we did to Jesus, surely, we can forgive the little things we do to each other. Let's forgive our neighbors, help each other out, take care of each other, and show God's love to the world. Amen.



**West Clermont Lutheran Church Council Meeting
March 10, 2021**

Present: Amy Cummings, Vernon Oakland, Gene Ruckdashel, Wendy Larson, Kathy Wander, Brant Schrader, Jed Dean, Sue Zimmer and Pastor Mike Erickson

Vernon called the meeting to order at 6:31p.m. Pastor Mike opened with prayer.

Motion made by Sue to approve agenda. Jed second, motion carried.

Kathy sent out the monthly financial statement for review prior to the meeting. Motion made by Brandt to approve the Treasurer's Report. Wendy second, motion carried.

On a TEEM update, Pastor Mike has finished week 5 of his 10-week class and is off for Holy Week. Pastor is on track with the confirmation students and confirmation will be on April 18th. He will be meeting with the First Communion kids for the next two Sunday's in preparation of the sacrament.

The council discussed the estimates for various projects and until the weather is more cooperative, we have tabled the estimates for the roof, bat removal, and other interior repairs. The tree removal was a safe and successful event. Thanks for all the volunteers. Jed made a motion to call Viking Pest Control to Spray for wasps. Brandt second, motion carried.

The council discussed outside groups and small meals in the kitchen and the council has decided that since church is in person we can move forward with outside groups. Wendy motion to allow outside groups. Sue second, motion carried.

Amy made a motion for the fourth quarter noisy can offering, that was designated to Beth Zimmer, Sue Zimmer's granddaughter be paid out by Kathy. Wendy second, motion carried.

Wendy made a motion for the second quarter noisy can offering be designated to raising funds for gas cards to have on hand in the event a parishioner needs one for travels for medical, an emergency or if anyone knows of someone in need. Sue second, motion carried.

Newsletter items are due to the office by March 22nd.

Council is looking for applicants for the WCLC 2021 scholarship. Applications are due on March 31st.

Next meeting will be held **Wednesday, April 14th, at 6:30 pm.**

Motion made by Brant to accept the minutes as read. Wendy second, motion carried.

Motion made by Amy to adjourn at 7:32 pm. Sue second, motion carried.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.



For the last 3 years, I have served on the Synodical Women’s Organization for the NEIA Synod as a board member. Part of my duties have included writing articles for the SWO’s insert called “Good News” which is part of the NEIA Synod’s monthly newsletter the “Star”. My latest article was in the March 2021 Star issue and is copied below:

Now is a wonderful time to reflect on our stewardship. I have always thought of stewardship in the holistic sense of the word. Stewardship is not just giving financially, but also includes being generous with all of our God given blessings.

In the article, *Holistic Stewardship for Lent* written Rev. Rob Blezard, he suggests we focus on our **FAITH** blessings:

Family and Friends- nurturing relationships.

Abundance- finance & material possessions.

Intelligence- your mind & special talents.

Time- living fully 24/7.

Health- physical & emotional wellness.

If we prayerfully reflect about **FAITH**, you can find more meaning and purpose as a steward of Jesus. Seeing how all of our blessings relate and interlock with each other offers balance in our lives and the opportunity to freely share what we have been given. Thanks be to God for all our FAITH blessings that allow us to be good stewards of our many blessings!

<https://www.stpeterslutheran.org/2019/03/holistic-stewardship-for-lent/>

Submitted by Deb Jacobsen.



Offerings: February 28 – March 14, 2021

Sunday, February 28, 2021

Loose: \$5.00

Total General Fund: \$1,360.19

Building Fund - roof \$85.00

Attendance: 38

Regular: \$1,320.00

Noisy Can: \$35.19

Sunday, March 7, 2021

Children’s Bucket: \$4.00

Regular: \$2,590.00

Total General Fund: \$2,775.00

Building Fund: \$110.00

Roof: \$85.00

Regular: \$25.00

Attendance: 40

Noisy Can: \$4.00

Lenten: \$70.00

Food Pantry: \$70.00

Sunday, March 14, 2021

Loose: \$5.00

Noisy Can: \$69.80

Lenten: \$75.00

Total General Fund: \$911.80

Building Fund: \$160.00 (Roof: \$85.00 / Regular: \$75.00)

Attendance: 37

Children’s Bucket: \$2.00

Regular: \$760.00



<https://www.facebook.com/100011482533370>

Average Facebook Live views per Sunday

February: 49

Ash Wednesday: 61

Prayer List

Requested: Carlos Delgado, Jeanette (Davisson) Cain, Daniel Guyer, Vivian Guyer, Pr. Phil Olson, Beth Zimmer, Heidi Henriksen, Betty Erickson, Devin Schrad, Richard Schrad, John Yauslin, Bob Kress, Kyle Wander, Khaki Nelson, Don Erickson, Ken Erickson.

Assisted Living, Nursing Homes & Shut-Ins: Clarice Gass, Albert Schave, Millard Nelson, Betty Erickson, Gail Herman, Khaki Nelson.

In the Military: Jeff Kleppe, Nathan Guyer, Captain Stephanie Wilkins, Kennedy White.



April 2021

DATE	READERS	ACOLYTES	COMMUNION
4/1* (Maundy Thursday)	Mark Erickson	Avery Donnelly	Wendy Steffens
4/4* (Easter)	Denise Nelson	Reed Cummings	Mark or Denise Nelson
4/11	Claire Cummings	Layne Kleppe	
4/18 (Confirmation)	<i>Confirmation Students</i>	Mark Erickson	
4/25*	Kathy Wander	Cece Cummings	Kyle or Kathy Wander

*Holy Communion

April Ushers: Mark Nelson, Kyle & Brendan Wander



04/03 Jacobsen Alycia
 04/06 Kittelson Steven
 04/14 Nelson Gladys
 04/22 Rowland Shirley
 |04/26 Dinan Joseph
 |04/28 Donnelly Avery

04/04 Larson Colby
 04/07 Swenson Marsha
 04/14 Schrader Teagan
 04/23 Muxin Julianna
 04/27 Guyer Arnold
 04/29 Nims Luann

04/05 Schlicht Hadley
 04/08 Amundson Jennifer
 04/16 Davisson Jennifer
 04/25 Larson Wendy
 04/27 Helgerson Milo
 04/30 Amundson Cecelia

*If you have an April birthday & do not see your name, please let the office know.



Palm Sunday, March 28th
 Maundy Thursday, April 1st
 Good Friday, April 2nd
Easter Sunday, April 4th

9:30am @ WCLC
 7pm @ WCLC
 7pm @ Illyria Community Church
9:30am @ WCLC



OFFICE HOURS Mike Erickson has **office hours** on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9am-noon. To schedule an appointment you may contact the office. Drop ins welcome. You may also contact Mike @ 423-5122 (home) or 563-422-1687 (cell) at any time.

Mobile Food Pantry @ Crossfire Church will be on Monday, April 12th from 4:30-5:30pm.

We are Facebook Live & can be found on our church Facebook page- "**West Clermont**". A Wi-Fi booster has also been added to improve our feed.

West Clermont is **Live** on the **RADIO**. Please tune into FM 99.5 @ 9:30am to listen to the service. We are not sure how far the reception will go on any given day. We know that the parking lot and most of town are able to receive the service.

Noisy Can Offering for 2nd quarter (April-June) has been designated to raising funds for gas cards to have on hand in the event a parishioner needs one for medical travel, an emergency, or if anyone knows of someone in need.



Congratulations to Isabella & Brailynn Dirksen who have received camperships to attend Village Creek Bible Camp in Lansing this summer!

 **EWALU Summer Camp & Other Camp Program Guides** are now available. **WCLC Camperships are still available** to assist with costs. Guides are available in the downstairs entry. Please contact the office for campership information.

 **Scholarships GRADUATING SENIORS:** Applications for the WCLC Scholarship are still available. Completed applications are due back to the office by Wednesday, March 31st.



Confirmation Sunday is April 18th.



LWR Truck will be in Decorah on Saturday, May 1st from 7:30-10:30am.



First Communion Sunday is May 2nd.