

First Fruits

March 2020

Volume 24, Number 3

Worship Ministry



SHROVE TUESDAY

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER

Tuesday, February 25
from 5-7 PM, at St. Andrew

Episcopal Church (1112 N. 7th St., Chariton). All proceeds will go to the food pantry at the Ministries Center.



ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP with HOLY COMMUNION & IMPOSITION OF ASHES FEBRUARY 26

CORYDON WORSHIP – NOON CHARITON WORSHIP – 7 PM

We will follow the traditional order of worship for Ash Wednesday, including the imposition of ashes. There is no meal prior to this service.



ON SUNDAY, MARCH 1, following the 9 AM worship service, First Lutheran will have a special congregation meeting to approve year 2 of the concrete project.



AT FIRST LUTHERAN:

Beginning Wednesday, March 4, First Lutheran will host a light supper at 6:15 PM followed by worship at 7 PM. Watch for the Lenten Supper sign-up sheet that will soon be posted on the bulletin board in the Fireside Room to volunteer for preparing and serving meals.

CORYDON COMMUNITY MID-WEEK LENTEN WORSHIP

Beginning on Thursday, March 5, and continuing each Thursday through Lent, the Wayne County Ministerial Association is sponsoring mid-week Lenten worship services followed by a freewill offering luncheon. The worship time is 12:05 PM followed by lunch. All of the 25-minute worship services and following luncheons will be held at Corydon United Methodist Church.

Easter Lily Sign-Up At Chariton



If you plan to donate a lily for Easter Sunday at First Lutheran, you may designate it as a memorial or in honor of someone. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the Fireside Room and the list of names will be printed in the Easter bulletin.

Pastoral Pondering

It's a beautiful day, the sun is shining and surely spring is just a few days away; but, before the daffodils bloom, there will be cloudy and rainy days. Just as we await Easter with all its glory, there is a journey we all make together through Lent – a 40 day journey of preparation.

During this Lenten journey we are reminded, Christ wants us to know, that he has been sent by his Heavenly Father to love us, to bear our burdens, and to accept the consequences of our sinful ways. Jesus says: *“Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me. I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.”* (John 17:25-26)

Jesus walked among us to share the awesome love of our Heavenly Father; but, like some that he encountered on his earthly journey, there were those who have retired from a fantastic relationship with a living and caring God. Some walked away, others were too busy to care about relationship, and others were just plain apathetic. Jesus, however, never stops loving and caring – continually offering his eternal love. *“Remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”* (Matthew 28:20)

People tell me how difficult it is to rekindle a relationship, once one steps away, but I would be so bold today to suggest that such thinking is in the mind of the individual, not the loving Son of God. Jesus keeps inviting and offering himself in love, wanting to share the excitement found in relationship.

When I retired from full-time ministry in 2005, it only lasted 5 months and I wanted something more than sitting in the lazy boy and mowing grass, I yearned for relationships with others (many of whom I had never met before). And, once I opened myself to that loving invitation within God's family, I have met and shared a journey with hundreds of exciting people – people I now call friends. Life is full of amazing relationships!

Lent is a time for all of God's family to rekindle that spark of excitement that we share together in faith. It is time to renew friendships, to meet new friends, and to share a journey of faith. I would invite everyone to give our loving Savior a few moments in worship – either on Sunday or Wednesday evening – and experience a love that is truly amazing.

As the hymn writer says: “Amazing grace! How sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but now am found; was blind, but now I see. . . . The Lord has promised good to me; his word my hope secures; he will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.”

Jesus invites all to share a Lenten journey – a relationship with Jesus!

Blessings!
Pastor Dick

Discipleship Ministry

2020 Task Force (Christ the Servant)

Dave Mason (Chair)	Brian Sipma
Doug Thiel (V. Chair)	Mary Ann Evitt
Ann Sipma (Secretary)	Tom Schilling
	Patty Mason

Cindy Thiel (Council Rep)
 Dave Mason (Council Rep)
 Emmy Forbes (Treasurer)

2020 Church Council

Gayle Bortz (President)	Cindy Thiel
Justin Sharp (Vice-President)	Dave Mason
Susan Seuferer (Secretary)	Ronda Morrett
Brad Krutsinger (Treasurer)	Dave Jurgens
Julie Goetsch	



**LUTHERAN LAKESIDE CAMP
 VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD**

Last summer, Don Brown, Dave Kuball, Denny Bisgard, and Rod Bortz devoted three days to working at Lutheran Lakeside camp. They dug 200 holes, planted 200 trees, and then mulched all the trees. That was quite an endeavor and they were so appreciated by the camp, especially by Ranger Z!! Thrivent Action Team money was used to pay for the mulch. Thank you Thrivent! In addition, we received word that our famous 4 tree planters received **Volunteer of the Year for the Camp!** Woo Hoo!! They were voted on by the executive director, the staff, and visiting members of the camp. We are so proud of them and the work they did to beautify the camp. They will receive their certificate at the Lutheran Lakeside Annual meeting held February 29 at Faith Lutheran in Clive, Iowa. **Congratulations men on a job well done!!**

Stewardship Ministry



**GIVING
 OPPORTUNITIES
 THROUGH THE
 SEASON OF LENT**

Our mid-week and “Noisy” offerings this year will go to the Angel Fund at the Chariton School. This fund helps cover students’ meals so that no student goes without a meal.

- * The “noisy” offering will be taken each Sunday through Lent at First Lutheran.
- * The mid-week offering will be taken during the Wednesday worship service at First Lutheran.

MARCH 15

CINNAMON ROLL SUNDAY

The youth attending the next Youth Gathering will be serving cinnamon rolls on Sunday, March 15, in



exchange for a free-will donation. All donations will be put toward the next Youth Gathering!

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR YOUTH!

ATTENTION: To anyone that is cleaning closets or decluttering during these cold winter days!

The Breakfast Gals have decided to plan the annual basement sale at FLC in June 2020. Donated items such as clothing, household items, etc. would be appreciated. We cannot accept TV's or computers. Items may be placed in the church basement. If you need items picked up or have any questions, please contact Linda Comstock (641-774-4406) or Fay Utesch (515-451-1232).



⋮⋮⋮ On the Vine

The Prayer Shawl Ministry Group will gather on **Wednesday, March 4**, at First Lutheran, beginning at 1:30 PM.

LAF : Lutheran Adult Fellowship will gather in the Fireside Room at First Lutheran beginning at **6 PM on Sunday, March 8**. We will be having a St. Patrick's Day Party so be sure to "put your green on"! Roger & Kary Blunk will be your hosts.

"Sharing the Weight" Blanket Making Party at CTS will be held on Tuesday, **March 10**, from 9 AM-3 PM. We invite everyone to come and join us. Come as early as you can and stay as long as you like.

The Women of the ELCA will meet on Thursday, **February 12**, at 1 PM. Please watch the bulletins for the gathering place to be announced. All women are invited!

The CTS (Christ the Servant) Women's Bible Study Group will meet on Tuesday, **March 17**, at Noon. Watch the bulletins for the meeting place to be announced.

Re:Newed

Baptismal Anniversaries

During March, we remember and give thanks for the baptisms of:

	Beverly Johnson	3/25	Jeff Farrell
3/20	Jean Heston	3/25	Makala Farrell
3/23	Easton Wilson	3/25	Kaiti Farrell
3/24	Geneva Wilson	3/26	Tom Schilling
3/25	Chris Farrell	3/27	Tanner Duey
3/25	Doug Farrell	3/29	Karen Orwig
		3/30	Jason Allen

Thanks be to Jesus for the saving waters of baptism!

(In baptism, we all are made one in Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, neither male nor female, neither Chariton nor Corydon! Are we missing your baptismal anniversary? Let us know! Tell us the story of your baptism!)



First Lutheran Church
Christ the Servant Lutheran Ministry
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

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March

- ** ASH WEDNESDAY – February 26**
Noon – Corydon
7 PM – Chariton
- ** SPECIAL FIRST LUTHERAN CONGREGATION**
MEETING: Sunday, March 1,
following worship
- ** LENT MID-WEEK SCHEDULES**
FOR CORYDON & CHARITON

Be Bold in our Faith as Children of God
and Share the Good News of Salvation with All People

(First Lutheran Mission Statement)



Share the Joy of Christ, and Serve Others

(Christ the Servant Mission Statement)

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First Lutheran Church Chariton, IA
 flcchariton@iowatelecom.net
 (641)774-4875
 Worship 9 AM
 Sunday School 10:15 AM

Pastor Dick Hutton

Christ the Servant Corydon, IA
 Office: 641-774-4875
 Sunday School 10 AM
 Worship 11 AM

March 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Holy Communion 9 am—First, Chariton 10 am – CTS Sunday School 10:15 am – FLC Special Congregation Meeting 10:15 am – FLC Sunday School 11 am—Christ the Servant, Corydon	2	3 10 am – FLC Worship Committee 10 am –Bible Study at St. Andrews Episcopal 11:30 am –Lucas Co. ICC at First Lutheran	4 1:30 pm – Prayer Shawl Ministry at FLC 2 pm – Confirmation Class at FLC AT FIRST LUTHERAN: 6:15 pm—Lenten Meal 7:00 pm – Worship 8 pm – AA @ CTS	5 12:05 pm - Corydon Lenten Worship & Meal at Corydon Methodist 7 pm—Slavic Worship at FLC	6 Office Closed	7 8 pm – AA @ CTS
8 Holy Communion 9 am—First, Chariton 10 am – CTS Sunday School 10:15 am— FLC Sunday School 10:15 am – Executive Committee 11 am—Christ the Servant, Corydon 6 pm – Lutheran Adult Fellowship <i>Daylight Savings Time Begins</i>	9 2 pm—Laplenders Quilt Guild at CTS 6:30 pm—Council at FLC	10 8 am—Breakfast Gals at Hardee's 9 am-3 pm – Blanket Making Party at CTS 10 am –Bible Study at St. Andrews Episcopal	11 2 pm – Confirmation Class at FLC AT FIRST LUTHERAN: 6:15 pm—Lenten Meal 7:00 pm – Worship 8 pm – AA @ CTS	12 12:05 pm - Corydon Lenten Worship & Meal at Corydon Methodist 1 pm – Women of the ELCA 7 pm—Slavic Worship at FLC	13 Office Closed	14 8 pm – AA @ CTS
15 Holy Communion Cinnamon Roll Sunday 9 am—First, Chariton 10 am – CTS Sunday School 10:15 am— FLC Sunday School 11 am—Christ the Servant, Corydon Noon – CTS Task Force & CTS Worship Committee	16 7 pm – Quilt Guild in Fireside Room	17 10 am –Bible Study at St. Andrews Episcopal Noon – CTS Women's Bible Study (place TBA)	18 AT FIRST LUTHERAN: 6:15 pm—Lenten Meal 7:00 pm – Worship 8 pm – AA @ CTS	19 12:05 pm - Corydon Lenten Worship & Meal at Corydon Methodist 1 pm – Wayne Co. Ministers Meet 7 pm—Slavic Worship at FLC	20 Office Closed Newsletter Deadline!	21 8 pm – AA @ CTS
22 Holy Communion 9 am—First, Chariton 10 am – CTS Sunday School 10:15 am— FLC Sunday School 11 am—Christ the Servant, Corydon	23	24 10 am –Bible Study at St. Andrews Episcopal	25 2 pm – Confirmation Class at FLC AT FIRST LUTHERAN: 6:15 pm—Lenten Meal 7:00 pm – Worship 8 pm – AA @ CTS	26 12:05 pm - Corydon Lenten Worship & Meal at Corydon Methodist 7 pm—Slavic Worship at FLC	27 Office Closed	28 8 pm – AA @ CTS
29 Holy Communion 9 am—First, Chariton 10 am – CTS Sunday School 10:15 am – FLC Sunday School 11 am—Christ the Servant, Corydon	30	31 10 am –Bible Study at St. Andrews Episcopal	AA – Alcoholics Anonymous		Wendy's Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 7:30 AM – 3 PM	