

First Fruits



March 2019

Volume 23, Number 3

Worship Ministry



ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP MARCH 6

CORYDON WORSHIP – 6:00 PM

CHARITON WORSHIP – 7:30 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 10, following the 9 AM worship service, First Lutheran will have a special congregation meeting to discuss the sound system proposal.



MID-WEEK LENTEN WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



AT FIRST LUTHERAN:

Beginning Wednesday March 13,

First Lutheran will host a light supper at 6:15 PM followed by worship at 7 PM. The theme this year is Journey to the Easter Vigil. Rather than having a Saturday night service this year, we will hear the Vigil stories throughout Lent, culminating on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday. The stories will include the following: Creation, the Flood, Deliverance at the Red Sea, Salvation freely offered to All, and Deliverance from the fiery furnace. Songs, prayers, readings and meditations will all highlight the story for the day. The mid-week Lenten offering will go toward hunger – split evenly between the Lucas County Ministries Center and the ELCA World Hunger Appeal. The LENTEN SUPPER SIGN-UP SHEET to volunteer for preparing and serving meals is posted on the bulletin board in the Fireside Room.

CORYDON COMMUNITY MID-WEEK LENTEN WORSHIP

Beginning on Thursday, March 14, 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.

GOD HUNT



The God Hunt began on Sunday, February 10, and the post it notes are going up on the board in the gathering area. If you'd like, you may grab some of the blank post-its to record your God sightings during the week. At First, on February 17, several people shared their God sightings during our worship service. Hopefully, more will continue to share as the days and weeks of the God Hunt continue. Your friends and family, gathered in worship, are eager to hear of others' sightings and are encouraged as stories are shared. God is always in action in our lives; let's find God and then tell our stories.

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Dear Friends in Faith,
In another few days we will begin our 2019 Lenten Journey together. Both Sunday mornings and midweek services (Wednesday evenings at First Lutheran; Thursday noon in Corydon) will provide preaching, teaching and encouragement as we walk with Jesus on his way to Jerusalem and crucifixion.



This is a time of the year when Christians are expected to act a little differently. We leave Ash Wednesday worship with dirt on our foreheads. We gather for worship in the middle of the week. We increase the amount of time we spend reading the Bible and praying. Some denominations focus on the passion of Jesus and the deliberate steps he took to ensure arriving at the cross. Others focus on "giving up (something) for Lent." We tend to acknowledge Jesus' journey, but delay the passion focus until Holy Week; and rather than "giving up," we encourage "giving too." For that reason, your worship and music planning committees have agreed to use the ELCA World Hunger series to help us focus on 40 Days of Giving.

We have calendars with reminders and encouragements for each day in Lent and Holy Week, information about the various ministries that are supported through World Hunger, devotion booklets and other resources you may wish to use during Lent. The 40 Days of Giving brochure will be included with your Ash Wednesday worship bulletin. This Invitation to Lent will provide details on all you need to know to keep your focus on both giving and "thanks" giving. If you'd like one of the weekly study guides, please let me now, so I can order a copy for you.

Pray with me and continue to pray as Lent 2019 unfolds: "God of faithfulness, you led Israel through the wilderness to safety with a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. In the Spirit you led Jesus through the wilderness to the cross and the empty tomb. God of faithfulness, lead us this holy season."*

Yours in Christ's love,
Pastor Sally

*from Lenten Litany, ELCA World Hunger Action Guide for Congregations

Discipleship Ministry

SPEND MORE TIME IN THE BIBLE

Lent is a great time to spend a little more time, studying and worshipping with our Bibles. Opportunities for group study abound. Pick one (or two):

- **WWW** – 1st and 3rd Monday, at 6 PM, at the parsonage. Using *Inspired* by Rachel Held Evans.
- **Book Study** – 2nd and 4th Sunday, 4-5:30 PM in the Library at First Lutheran. Using *We Make the Road by Walking*, written by Brian D. McLaren.
- **WELCA Gather Bible Study** – 2nd Thursday at 1 PM. (See bulletin notice for location.)
- **Corydon Gather Bible Study** – 3rd Tuesday at noon (see bulletin notice for location.)
- **Women’s study of the Women of the Bible** – 1st Tuesday, at 1:30 PM, at Christ the Servant.

PICTORIAL DIRECTORY: We will be doing a new pictorial directory as part of our 150th Anniversary Celebration. **Lifetouch Church Directory will be taking family photos on April 25, 26, & 27 (Thursday-Saturday).**



Our 150th Anniversary will be celebrated on September 15, 2019. More information will be coming.



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ATTENTION SPRING CLEANERS!

The Breakfast Gals will be having their annual garage sale on May 31 and June 1 in the First Lutheran Church basement. Donated items of clothing, household items, toys, and miscellaneous items may be left in the basement. Please note that we will not be able to accept TV’s or computers. If you have any questions or need items picked up, please contact Linda Comstock (641-774-4406) or Fay Utesch (515-451-1232).



MARCH 17 - CINNAMON ROLL SUNDAY

The youth attending the next Youth Gathering will be serving cinnamon rolls on Sunday, March 17, in exchange for a free-will donation. All donations will be put toward the next Youth Gathering!



THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR YOUTH!

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!)

☺☺☺☺ On the Vine

“Coffee, Conversation, Camaraderie” CCC@CTS on Friday, March 1 AND

Friday, March 29. Christ the Servant Lutheran Ministry will have their Thrivent Action Team Coffee shop open from 9-11 AM and will serve fair trade coffees and teas, and anyone is invited to attend. Community residents are invited to come with friends or come alone and make friends.

Women, Wine & Witness Group

(WWW): The Women, Wine and Witness group meets on the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month at the parsonage. In March, we will meet on **March 4 & 18.**

The CTS (Christ the Servant) Women’s Bible Study opportunities:

** On Tuesday, **March 5**, from 1:30-3 PM, at Christ the Servant. We will be using the book, *Twelve Women of the Bible*.

** On Tuesday, **March 19**, we will meet at Noon for our *Gather* study. Watch the bulletins for the place to be announced.

The Prayer Shawl Ministry Group will gather on **Wednesday, March 6**, at First Lutheran, beginning at 1:30 PM. All are invited to participate.

“Sharing the Weight” Blanket Making Parties at CTS are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month from 9 AM-3 PM. **Our next gathering will be on March 12.** We invite everyone to come and join us. We have sewing and non-sewing jobs so all skills are welcome. Come as early as you can and stay as long as you like.

Women of the ELCA will host Cluster 9 Spring Gathering on Saturday morning, March 30, here at First Lutheran.

Christ the Servant member, Judd Kruse, will present the program. Just last August, Judd participated in a three-week trip to the Himalayan Mountains in Nepal and Tibet, China, with a group of cancer survivors and caregivers. The trip was sponsored by Above and Beyond Cancer, a nonprofit organization founded by Dr. Richard Deming, a radiology oncologist with Mercy Hospital in Des Moines. Many of us have probably heard of Dr. Deming and his mountain-climbing cancer survivors. All in the congregation are invited and encouraged to come hear Judd’s first-hand presentation of his experience.



The Women of the ELCA will meet on Thursday, **March 14**, at the home of Geralda Wiig, beginning at 1 PM. All women are invited!

The Book/Bible Study We Make the Road by Walking meets on the 2nd & 4th Sundays each month, from 4-5:30 pm, at FLC. In March, the dates are **March 10 & 24.**

LAF :: Lutheran Adult Fellowship

A small group ministry of First Lutheran Church that gathers monthly to share food and fun. Newcomers are always welcome.

We will gather in the Fireside Room at First Lutheran beginning at **6 PM on Sunday, March 10, for a St. Patrick’s Day Party.** Roger & Kary Blunk will be your hosts.



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

1004 Curtis Ave • Chariton, Iowa 50049

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 and Christ the Servant Lutheran Ministry
 phone: 641-774-4875

March

- ** ASH WEDNESDAY – March 6**
 6:00 PM – Corydon
 7:30 PM – Chariton
- ** MID-WEEK LENTEN MEALS and WORSHIP**
 Schedules for Chariton & Corydon
- ** MULTIPLE BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES**
- ** SPECIAL FIRST LUTHERAN CONGREGATION MEETING: Sunday, March 10, following worship**

**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

Serve Others

Christ, and

(Christ the Servant Mission Statement)

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<http://twitter.com/iowalutheran>



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

Pastor Sally Wilke

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

March 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
AA – Alcoholics Anonymous					1 9-11 am – CCC at CTS Office Closed	2 8 pm – AA @ CTS
3 Holy Communion 10:15 am – Sunday School at FLC 1 pm – Slavic Worship	4 6 pm – WWW at the parsonage	5 10 am – FLC Worship Committee 11:30 am – Lucas Co. ICC at First Lutheran 1:30 pm – CTS Women's Bible Study at CTS	6 1:30 pm – Prayer Shawl Ministry at FLC Ash Wednesday - HC 6:00 pm – Corydon 7:30 pm – Chariton 8 pm – AA @ CTS	7 9 am – FLC Quilting 7 pm – Slavic Worship	8 Office Closed	9 8 pm – AA @ CTS
10 Holy Communion 10:15 am – FLC Special Cong. Meeting 10:15 am – Executive Committee 10:15 am – Sunday School at FLC 1 pm – Slavic Worship 4-5:30 pm – Book/Bible Study/FLC 6 pm – Lutheran Adult Fellowship <i>Davlight Savinas Time Begins</i>	11 2 pm – Laplanders Quilt Guild at CTS 6:30 pm – Council at FLC	12 8 am – Breakfast Gals 9 am-3 pm – Blanket Making Party at CTS	13 AT FIRST LUTHERAN: 6:15 pm – Lenten Meal 7:00 pm – Worship 8 pm – AA @ CTS	14 9 am – FLC Quilting 12:05 pm – Corydon Lenten Worship & Meal 1 pm – Women of the ELCA 7 pm – Slavic Worship	15 Office Closed Newsletter Deadline!	16 8 pm – AA @ CTS
17 Holy Communion Cinnamon Roll Sunday 10:15 am – Sunday School at FLC 1 pm – Slavic Worship	18 6 pm – WWW at the parsonage 7 pm – Quilt Guild in Fireside Room	19 Noon – CTS Women's Bible Study (place TBA) 3:30 pm – CTS Worship Committee 4:30 pm – CTS Task Force	20 2-5 pm – GiF: Year 1 AT FIRST LUTHERAN: 6:15 pm – Lenten Meal 7:00 pm – Worship 8 pm – AA @ CTS	21 9 am – FLC Quilting 12:05 pm – Corydon Lenten Worship & Meal 1 pm – WCMA 7 pm – Slavic Worship	22 Office Closed	23 8 pm – AA @ CTS
24 Holy Communion 10:15 am – Sunday School at FLC 1 pm – Slavic Worship 4-5:30 pm – Book/Bible Study at FLC	25	26	27 AT FIRST LUTHERAN: 6:15 pm – Lenten Meal 7:00 pm – Worship 8 pm – AA @ CTS	28 9 am – FLC Quilting 12:05 pm – Corydon Lenten Worship & Meal 7 pm – Slavic Worship	29 9-11 am – CCC at CTS Office Closed	30 8:30 am – Cluster 9 Spring Gathering at FLC 8 pm – AA @ CTS
30 Holy Communion 10:15 am – Sunday School at FLC 1 pm – Slavic Worship						