

Handclasp

MARCH 2017 Monthly Newsletter of First Lutheran Church
302 S. 10th St. · St. Joseph, MO 64501 · 816.232.8378 · flcsj.org

Creating a New Way of Living

Jim Pierce

Those of you in worship Sunday heard me explain that for each of us transformation began at our conception and continues as long as we live. As Christians, we undergo a second transformation that began when we were claimed as God's children in our baptisms and continues throughout our lives as God's children and as disciples of Jesus. That is true of us as individually and as a congregation. God transforms us as we encounter God in worship, in study, in prayer and in service, going where God sends us as disciples. While this happens throughout our lives, we do not often stop to reflect on what God is up to.

That's why we as a congregation will be coming together in times of conversation under the themes of Vision and Discovery over the next few months to ask the questions: What is God's vision for my life as a child of God? What is God's vision of for our lives together as a congregation of disciples of Jesus? How is God equipping us individually and together for mission? The purpose of these conversations is to lead to Action as we then engage the ministries God calls us into.

In Matthew 10 we read that Jesus commissioned the twelve disciples then sent them out in pairs to proclaim the good news that the Kingdom of God has come near. The disciples went, equipped only with the gifts God gave them and with faith that God would use those gifts to bring God's message to those who were lost and longing to be found. The disciples went, supporting one another, and came back to report what God did through them.

Like the twelve, Jesus commissions us, sends us out, and instructs us to return to share with one another what God is doing through us. Like the twelve, we will have opportunities to gather back together with Jesus to share and celebrate.

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Happy Birthday

Luthans, Molly	3/5
Reder, Larry	3/5
Amos, Lori	3/6
Trease, Corey	3/8
Chladek, Brett	3/12
Bufkin, Jennifer	3/13
Wearing, Patrick	3/16
Hoffecker, Robby	3/17
Perkins, Betty	3/19
Viselli, Kylie	3/22
Pearl, Jack	3/23
Reder, Nancy	3/31
Taylor, Bruce	3/31



If you have Thrivent Choice dollars that have not been designated from 2016 they will expire on March 31st. Please take the time to consider designating your dollars to First Lutheran Church. Do this by calling Thrivent Financials home office 1-800-847-4836 or online at thrivent.com. Any questions or concerns call Cody F. Vaughn, our local rep and he can help you.

Happy Anniversary

Gene & Deanna Rasmussen	3/2/1957	60 years
Robert & Toni Gunderson	3/7/1965	52 years
James & Carol Roever	3/19/1966	51 years

Treasurer's Report January 2016

Cyndee Simpson, Treasurer

January Income	\$17, 899.34
January Expenses	\$17, 393.48
Year to Date Income	\$17, 899.34
Year to Date Expenses	\$17, 393.48



The family of Isabel Lightle wishes to thank the members of First Lutheran Church for all of their prayers and concerns during Isabel's treatment for Luekemia. She is now on a maintenance chemo program.

Many thanks for all of your prayers.

Della Schiermeyer

*Dear First Lutheran family,
Thank you so very much for all your good thoughts, prayers, cards, emails, texts and phone calls during my time of surgery and recovery. I certainly believe in the power of prayer and I appreciate all your love and care and concern as I continue to heal.*

Love, Sharmyn

Round table

Dwelling in the Word

Phoebe Circle - Tuesday, March 14th, 7:00 pm,
Kris Langdon, hostess

Confirmation - Mondays, 6:30 pm

Thursday Morning Bible Study - Thursdays at 10 am
at church

Fellowship

Early Morning Breakfast - Tuesday, March 21st,
6:30 am, at Le Peep

Wednesday With Friends - Wednesday Lent Worship

Service

Quilting Ladies - Wednesdays, March 1st and 15th,
9 am Fellowship Hall

Chancel Choir - Wednesdays at 7:00 pm

Wednesday Café - Wednesdays at 5:30pm

Community Dinner - Sunday, March 26th, 4:00 pm

Leadership

Altar Guild - Thursday, March 9th, 10:00 am

Congregational Council - Thursday, March 9th, 6:30 pm



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Even before our conversations begin, I ask you each to start preparing us by lifting up our congregation in prayer that God will open our eyes, our ears, our hearts, prayer that God will fill us, prayer that God will use us. Be sure you include yourself in your prayers—God open my eyes, my ears, my heart, God, fill me with your vision.

A planning team and I will meet March 2 to schedule these conversations. Watch for announcements of dates and times, then come and share! I look forward to listening to you and with you soon.

2017 Sunday Lent Theme

March 5	Tempting Obedience
March 12	Faith Trumps Law
March 19	Is God Among Us or Not
March 26	Anointing of God's Peace & Light
April 2	New Life Here and Now

Midweek: "Whole of Worship"

March 1	Embodied Worship
March 8	Hearing
March 15	Speech
March 22	Hands
March 29	Knees
April 5	Feet

Interfaith Alliance for Immigrants (IAI) is hosting

3 Immigration Forums

To discuss health, education, business, and resources immigrants utilize in our community.

Education & Health

Tuesday February 21st - 7:00pm

First Presbyterian Church - 301 N. 7th St

Speakers: Nancy Clisbee (Webster), Dr. Robert Stuber (SWB), and Fumi Cheever (MWSU)

Social Services & Resources

Tuesday March 21st - 7:00pm

St. Peter Lutheran Church - 3524 St. Joseph Ave

Speakers: Kim Kempf & Carrie Turner (YWCA),
Donna Salcido (Inter-Serv), TBD

Employment & Business

Tuesday April 18th - 7:00pm

St. James Church - 5814 King Hill Ave

Speakers: Chris Connally (Police Chief), Pat Lilly
(Chamber of Commerce), TBD

***Coffee and light refreshments will be served at each meeting.

Think about this - how do immigrants fit into...

Yourself? Your family? Your community? Your country? Your world?



Dress drive to benefit

Cinderella's Closet



Donations accepted at the Sunshine Personal Assistants' desk at Mosaic Life Care at St. Joseph, Medical Center through March 31, 2017

- Gently used prom dresses
- Formal shoes
- Evening bags
- Costume jewelry

Sponsored by The Junior League of St. Joseph

