



# SHEPHERD OF THE MOUNTAINS LUTHERAN CHURCH

## Shepherd's Staff

2000 Ptarmigan Trail • Estes Park, CO 80517 • (970)-586-3900  
 Pastor Ron Bockhaus (970)-646-6657 • www.smlcestes.org

SMLCEstes.org

MARCH 2018



### March Comm. Corner Café Menu

**March 2**

Pork Roast  
 Mormon Church

**March 9**

Chili/Chili dogs  
 Methodist Church

**March 16**

Shepherd's Pie  
 Womans Club

**March 23**

Crispy Chicken  
 Good Samaritan

**March 30**

Grill Night  
 Police Auxiliary



### Easter Sunday Brunch April 1st

**A**s we journey through Lent and look toward Easter for celebration, please plan to join with members and guests on Easter Sunday morning, April 1st, to share a potluck brunch following the worship service. There will be a sign-up sheet available (as we get closer to Easter) to indicate what you might like to bring to share and also how many might be attending from your family. This is always a delicious and enjoyable way to celebrate Easter together.

### March Worship Matters

**Sunday, 3/4, 9am**

Jesus Cleans House

**Wednesday, 3/7, 5:30pm**

Journey in Revelation

**Sunday, 3/11, 9am**

The Sign of God's Love

**Wednesday, 3/14, 5:30pm**

Signs and Prophecies

**Sunday, 3/18, 9am**

Fall To the Earth

**Wednesday, 3/21, 5:30pm**

A Timely Warning

**Sunday, 3/25, 9am**

Palm & Passion Sunday

**Thursday, 3/29, 5:30pm**

Maundy Thursday Worship

**Friday, 3/30, 5:30pm**

Joint Good Friday Worship

## Pastor's Corner

Pastor Ron Bockhaus - Contact me at ron.bockhaus@smlc.us 970-646-6657

# The Tree of Life

*All the trees of the field shall know that I am the Lord. I bring low the high tree, I make high the low tree; I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish. I the Lord have spoken; I will accomplish it.*  
Ezekiel 17.24

**A**s we go deeper into Lent and the study of the Book of Revelation, I'm becoming more aware of signs and symbols. Revelation presents the reader with many different signs which are borrowed from both Old and New Testaments. One particularly important sign is the *Tree of Life*. First promised in Revelation to fulfill people's hunger, and then brought to life in chapter 22 as a magnificent world-healing tree with "leaves for the healing of the nations", the Tree of Life is a universal sign of hope. Consider



as we follow the Lord Jesus Christ to the cross, we see God's salvation on a tree. Instead of leaves and branches, the savior of the world hangs before us in divine love. If you

think I'm stretching this too far let me tell you what I learned in Africa.

While volunteering in Cameroon my friend Tom, a veteran missionary, told about an African tree of life. He worked many years with the Gbaya people and learned of a tree in their culture which has great importance. The name of the tree is Sore' and roughly translated means, "cool thing." The leaves of this tree are used in numerous rituals involving human conflict, the times we often describe as "heated". It could be a disagreement between individuals or villages; breaking the strength of a dangerous person; or announcing a death. The Sore' was an important resource for opposing sides to cool down and not react with blind anger. At times the leaves worked

to establish a lasting reconciliation between individuals and communities. The connections between this tree and the reconciling message of the cross of Jesus are a missionary's dream. My friend Tom went on to professionally write and teach on this very subject.

The pain of the world is crying out for healing. As followers of the crucified Christ we have a story of healing for this needy world. Revelation tells of water from God's throne watering the Tree of Life to produce fruit and healing for the nations. We are God's hands in this world to bring the life of Christ to everyone we can. May this Lenten journey and this Holy week heal and strengthen us to do God's work.

*Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations.*

Revelation 22:1-2

*In Christ, Pastor Ron*

### February Prayer Reminders

**Sally Tessler, ongoing procedures and tests.**  
**Jill Johnson, surgery involving her brother-in-law, Randy.**  
**Steve Peter, surgery involving two of his niece's sons.**  
**Ralph and Nancy Knoll, Thanks for good test results.**  
**Families in transition.**

## March Calendar at a Glance

---

### Thursday, March 1

11am CCC Prep

---

### Friday March 2

8am CCC Prep  
4:30 Cafe Corner

---

### Saturday, March 3

10:30 - Organ Rehearsal

---

### Sunday, March 4

9am - Sunday Worship  
10:30 - Adult Forum  
4pm Oratorio Chorus

---

### Monday, March 5

10am – LaPuente Cooking  
5pm – Endowment Steering Committee

---

### Tuesday, March 6

9am – Peak to Peak Rehearsal  
9am – PEO  
10am – Revelation Bible Study

---

### Wednesday, March 7

7am – Sacred Space  
10am – LaPuente Cooking  
4pm – Choir Rehearsal  
5:30pm – Lenten Service  
6:30pm – Revelation Study

---

### Thursday, March 8

9am – Peak to Peak Rehearsal  
9am – Quilters  
11am – CCC Prep

---

### Friday, March 9

8am - CCC Prep  
4:30pm – Cafe Corner

---

### Saturday, March 10

8:30am – Men's Breakfast  
10:30am – Organ Rehearsal  
3pm – Peak to Peak Concert

---

### Sunday, March 11

9am – Sunday Worship  
10:30am – Adult Forum  
4pm – Oratorio Chorus Rehearsal

---

### Monday, March 12

10am – LaPuente Cooking

---

### Tuesday, March 13

10am – LaPuente Cooking  
10am – Revelation Bible Study  
1pm - WELCA  
5pm – Church Council

---

### Wednesday, March 14

7am – Sacred Space  
10am – LaPuente Cooking  
4pm – Choir Rehearsal  
5:30pm – Lenten Service  
6:30pm – Revelation Study

---

### Thursday, March 15

11am – CCC Prep

---

### Friday, March 16

8am - CCC Prep  
4:30pm – Cafe Corner

---

### Saturday, March 17

10:30am – Organ Rehearsal

---

### Sunday, March 18

9am – Sunday Worship-Crossroads Offering  
10:30 - Adult Forum

---

### Monday, March 19

10am – LaPuente Cooking

---

### Tuesday, March 20

9am – PEO  
10am – Revelation Bible Study

---

### Wednesday, March 21

7am – Sacred Space  
10am – LaPuente Cooking  
4pm – Choir Rehearsal  
5:30pm – Lenten Service  
6:30pm – Revelation Study

---

### Thursday, March 22

9am – Quilters  
11am – CCC Prep

---

### Friday, March 23

8:00am - CCC Prep  
4:30pm – Cafe Corner

---

### Saturday, March 24

10:30 – Organ Rehearsal

---

### Sunday, March 25

9am – Sunday Worship  
10:30 – Adult Forum  
4pm – Oratorio Chorus Rehearsal

---

### Monday, March 26

10am – LaPuente Cooking

*Continued on Page 4*

*Continued from Page 3*

---

**Tuesday, March 27**

10am – Revelation Bible Study  
10am – LaPuente Cooking

---

**Wednesday, March 28**

7am – Sacred Space  
10am – LaPuente Cooking  
4pm – Choir Rehearsal  
5:15pm – Revelation Study

---

**Thursday, March 29**

11am – CCC Prep  
5:30pm – Maundy Thursday Worship Service

---

**Friday, March 30**

8am - CCC Prep  
4:30pm – Cafe Corner  
5:30pm – Good Friday Joint Worship Service

---

**Saturday, March 31**

9am – Church Decorating  
10:30am – Organ Rehearsal

---

**Update from the Columbarium Committee**

- Committe has met monthly
- We have contacted representatives from Estes Park columbarium facilities
- Contact has been made to commercial companies regarding their services
- Our committee has met with Council
- The committee will present specific details relating to the establishing developmental costs and possible locations on our campus
- More details to follow

Committee Members include Mark Lorenz, Mike Wold, Mike Kellam, Bill Westley and Gary Trunnell



**Neighbors in Need**

**1 John 3:17** *“If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person?”*

The Bible clearly tells us that one of our responsibilities as Christians is to share our blessings with those in need. In Estes Park we accomplish this mission through our support of Crossroads Ministry. On Sunday, March 18, SMLC will be having a special offering in support of Crossroads. This offering will be part of the annual “Neighbors in Need” challenge, where once again, an anonymous donor has pledged \$50,000 of “matching funds” for the event.

In any given year Crossroads Ministry provides some form of assistance to 1 of every 12 residents of the Estes Valley (following the 2013 flood it was 1 of 10). Most of these families are “working poor” and need temporary help when, for example, one spouse loses a job, is injured, or is dealing with a serious illness. Crossroads is also running the “Estes Park Meals on Wheels” program. Please help SMLC support this vital ministry in our community!

**Luke 3:11** *“Anyone who has two shirts should share with the one who has none, and anyone with food should do the same.”*

**Jim Paddock**  
**SMLC Crossroads Board Representative**





**W**omen of the ELCA - We continue to learn from other interpretations in the women's March Bible study as we look at Luke's Good Samaritan Story found in Luke 10:30-37 found in the March issue of Gather Magazine. This month Nancy Matson will be leading our discussion as we explore examples of how this story has impacted culture, including cultures different from our own. (Extra copies of the study are available in the Narthex.) Plan to deepen your March Lenten journey by joining with other women at church on Tuesday, March 13 at 1 p.m., and share your own ideas and experiences related to this well know parable. All women are welcome!

**Important Dates of Note**

**Birthdays**

- Kathy George March-4**
- Marilyn Shalibo March-10**
- Marian Stencil March-20**
- John Stencil March-21**
- Donald Smith March-23**
- Letha Ginther March-26**

**1st Quarter Special Offering**

**T**he First Quarter Special Offering benefiting Crossroads Ministry will be taken Sunday, March 18th. Please prayerfully consider your contribution to this important ministry that helps so many people in the Estes Park area.

*Hunger Task Force*

**LENTEN QUILTING -**

**A**s we walk through the season of Lent together, Lutheran World Relief encourages us to announce to the world that the HOPE OF CHRIST makes a new season possible even in the midst of tragedies in the world - **A Season Of Hope.** We can join with sister congregations as we work for global good. Here at Shepherd of Mountains, Quilting is one of those service opportunities that connect us to our brothers and sisters in need in Colorado and around the world.

**Isaiah 58:10** reminds us that "...if you... satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noon day..."

**Isaiah 58:10** No special skills or tools are needed, only a heart willing to share your love with others and hands willing to work for others. What better way to offer our hearts and hands for God's work and illustrate the Hope of Christ to the world. Consider joining us on the 2nd and 4th Thursday mornings at church in March from 9:15 to 11:30 to help us tie and assemble quilts on March 8 and March 22. With extra help we already have completed 14 quilts in 2018 but have materials ready for many more quilts. This year do something new for Lent during March, Let Your Light Shine and help be a positive change for good in the world.

*Linda Schlitt*

**March Bible Readings**

**March 4**  
Exodus 20:1-17  
Psalm 19  
1 Corinthians 1:18-25  
John 2:13-22

**March 11**  
Numbers 21:4-9  
Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22  
Ephesians 2:1-10  
John 3:14-21

**March 18**  
Jeremiah 31:31-34  
Psalm 51:1-12  
Hebrews 5:5-10  
John 12:20-33

**March 25**  
Mark 11:1-11  
Isaiah 50:4-9a  
Psalm 31:9-16  
Philippians 2:5-11