



# 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

SMLCEstes.org

MARCH 2020



### March Worship Matters

- Sunday, 3-1, Back to Genesis 9am
- Wed., 3-4, Lenten mid-week prayer & reflection 5pm
- Sunday, 3-8, Never too old 9am
- Wed., 3-11, Lenten mid-week 5pm
- Sunday, 3-15, Wet rocks 9am
- Wed., 3-18, Lenten mid-week 5pm
- Sunday, 3-22, The coming of the Spirit of the Lord 9am
- Wed., 3-25, Lenten mid-week 5pm
- Sunday, 3-29, Dry Bones 9am

### March Birthdays

Kathy George.....March 4  
 Morgan Oglesby .....March 7  
 Marilyn Shalibo .....March 10  
 Donald Smith .....March 23

### Lily Lake....Serene, peaceful, soft with the breath of God.

**A**hhh, March....Three months away from the summer Meditation Walks around Lily Lake, each Monday, 5:00 pm beginning June 1, weather permitting. We gather in prayer and contemplation for a silent, slow walk around the Lake with stops (and sits) to listen to a shared reading, poem, scripture...and enfold in in our hearts.

The trail is handicapped accessible, for wheel-chairs and walkers. It is less than a mile around the Lake with seating along the way. The walk is ended by 6:00. Lily Lake is on the west side of Hwy 7, about 4 miles south of Estes Park. All are welcome!

## What Will You Do With the Next 40 Days?



**W**e are now in the season of Lent. It began yesterday with Ash Wednesday. It will conclude on Palm Sunday, April 5th. In his sermon on the mount Jesus gives us his best wisdom with regard to

practicing the faith. In essence, he says the things we do to practice the faith are not all about us but rather God and God's will.

The 40 days of Lent have often been held up as a time of focused concentration on individual faith and prayer along with intentional acts of charity. We do good things for that is what Christians do. I find that I'm energized by such intentionality. I like the fact the time has a beginning and end. "Forty days," I say, "I can do that!" "Charity, prayer, even fasting, I can do that" I say to myself. With Lent I find comfort in the work I am supposed to do as a follower of Christ Jesus. But what gets me off balance is my attitude of "suppose to."

In understanding my particular personality as I do, I know I can carry baggage labeled "should" around with me way too much. Practicing the faith turns into obligation and dogmatic repetition. Is that what pushes me to follow or am I drawn to follow out of love? We both know the correct answer to that question.

So along with the disciplines of faith this Lent, I'm also going to practice a little self-nurturing. I'm sharing these thoughts in order to give you permission to do the same. Let's be clear however! I'm not replacing Lenten activities, I am providing balance for them by doing things I enjoy. What things?

- Spending some time each day doing a recreational activity
- Giving myself a special treat
- Focusing on the importance of humor in life
- Becoming aware of what I want, and learning how to ask for it
- Avoid using the word "should"
- Getting a massage
- Being ok with less than perfect
- Setting times to not be "doing"

These may sound heretical for the 40 days of Lent and probably are to some. Yet they are my attempt to gain balance in this life and faith. If that is possible, it will only happen through God's presence primarily and not my doing. God is the life-giver. When we live this way we will be changed.

*Your partner in Lent, Pastor Ron*

### February Prayer Reminders

- Derrick Lusch, medical procedures
- Alta Wachs, injury and surgery
- Ellie & Judy, relatives of Linda Schlitt , undergoing medical tests and procedures
- Sally Tessler, thanksgiving with regard to latest medical tests
- Family of Nancy Knoll upon her recent death
- Vanessa Paswaters, upon the death of her father

## Sharing Our Love In March, Quilt By Quilt

**M**arch quilting-What better way to observe Lent than to come and help us make mission quilts! Some of them might even be green for St. Patrick's Day or purple for Lent. We'll be gathering every Thursday this month to assemble, tie and sew quilts for others. If you sew and can't join us on Thursday, you can even take home kits and put together quilt tops of make backs for us to use on Thursday mornings. Come in out of the wind this month and join us for warm fellowship as we work together to make beautiful warm quilts for others on March 5, 12, 19, & 26 from 9-11:30 at church. Contact Linda Schlitt or Lori McDonald for more information on how you can help.



### WELCA to Meet March 10 at 1pm

**T**he Women of the ELCA (WELCA) will meet on Tuesday, March 10 at 1:00 p.m. for fellowship and a Bible Study entitled, "We Are Called!" by Rev. Dr. Kathryn A Kleinhans. In this session we will cover the third of the four part study, Called to Serve, exploring the work God calls us to do in the world. All women are invited to attend; copies of the Lesson are available in the rack in front of the office; if you receive the "Gather" magazine published by the WELCA nationwide, you will have the lesson in the March issue. If you wish to subscribe to the "Gather", please see Linda Schlitt.

### School Bags Love Project

**W**e did it! During February over 30 school bags were sewn and filled with needed school supplies! Your amazing love offering of time, talent & \$387 means that we are helping Lutheran World Relief to send filled school bags to children in need around the world enabling them to go to school. Thank you for helping celebrate Valentine's month in a new way this year and share our love with each other and the children of the world! We may be a small congregation but with God's help and encouragement we continue to be mighty in love and service. Your boundless generosity is inspiring.

*With love in Christ, Linda Schlitt*

### March Bible Readings

**March 1**  
Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7  
Psalm 32  
Romans 5:12-19  
Matthew 4:1-11

**March 8**  
Genesis 12:1-4a  
Psalm 121  
Romans 4:1-5, 13-17  
John 3:1-17

**March 15**  
Exodus 17:1-7  
Psalm 95  
Romans 5:1-11  
John 4:5-42

**March 22**  
1 Samuel 16:1-13  
Psalm 23  
Ephesians 5:8-14  
John 9:1-41

**March 29**  
Ezekiel 37:1-14  
Psalm 130  
Romans 8:6-11  
John 11:1-45

# MARCH 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>1</p> <p>9am Sunday Worship 4pm Living Center Service</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p>9am PEO HF Chapter</p>	<p>4</p> <p>7am Sacred Space 4pm Choir Rehearsal 5pm Lenten Worship</p>	<p>5</p> <p>9am Quilters 12pm Cafe Corner Prep</p>	<p>6</p> <p>4:30pm Cafe Corner</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8</p> <p>9am Sunday Worship 10:30am Adult Forum 4pm Living Center Service</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p>9:30am Church Council Coaching 1pm WELCA 2pm Endowment Committee</p>	<p>11</p> <p>7am Sacred Space 4pm Choir Rehearsal 5pm Lenten Worship 6pm Church Council</p>	<p>12</p> <p>9am Quilters 12pm Cafe Corner Prep</p>	<p>13</p> <p>4:30pm Cafe Corner</p>	<p>14</p> <p>3pm Peak to Peak Concert</p>
<p>15</p> <p>9am Sunday Worship 10:30am Stephen Ministry 4pm Living Center Service</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p> <p>9am PEO HF Chapter</p>	<p>18</p> <p>7am Sacred Space 4pm Choir Rehearsal 5pm Lenten Worship</p>	<p>19</p> <p>9am Quilters 12pm Cafe Corner Prep</p>	<p>20</p> <p>4:30pm Cafe Corner</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22</p> <p>9am Sunday Worship 10:30am Adult Forum 4pm Living Center Service</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>7am Sacred Space 4pm Choir Rehearsal 5pm Lenten Worship</p>	<p>26</p> <p>9am Quilters 12pm Cafe Corner Prep</p>	<p>27</p> <p>4:30pm Cafe Corner</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p>9am Sunday Worship 10:30am Adult Forum 4pm Living Center Service</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>				