



Christus  
COR

# Church Of the Reformation - Lutheran

The Lutheran Church -- Missouri Synod  
With Christ at the Heart

7910 Mackenzie Road, St. Louis, MO 63123-2721  
(314) 352-1355

Reverend David C. Pelsue, Pastor  
www.reformationstl.org



## The First Valentine

Tradition has it that the first "valentine" was a red heart shape embossed with a cross. Created by

a martyred Christian nobleman named Valentine in order to give comfort, courage, and hope to early Christians imprisoned for their faith in 3rd century Rome. What a perfect symbol to communicate to those destined for martyrdom, "You are loved with an everlasting love, a love that is stronger than death! ...the redeeming love of Christ, our Savior."

Through the ages this wonderful symbol has been greatly watered down and secularized. But, to the Christian, it should remain a sign of the love of Christ that dwells within and permeates the life of every believer. It was Christ's love for us that moved Him to the cross in order to make us His very own, eternally. It proved to be a love stronger than death, a comforting love which still says to us, "I have loved you with an everlasting love. . . Behold I am with you even to the end of the age." (Jer.31:3; Mat.28:20)

So, when you get or send or receive a valentine, remember the cross on the heart. Let this symbol of love remind you of Christ's love. Remember the message of the original St. Valentine. "... neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Rom 8:38-39 NKJV)

In Christ's Love,  
*Pastor Pelsue*



## FEBRUARY NEWS & NOTES



### WOMEN'S GUILD

#### MEETING

Ladies of the congregation are invited to join us on **Tuesday, February 1<sup>st</sup>** for the Women's Guild Meeting. NOTICE our new time change. We are now meeting at **12:00 noon** instead of 12:30 p.m. This will help the ladies with small children still in school be able to attend the full meeting. After the meeting, we will play "Rob Your Neighbor." Please bring a dollar gift to rob from someone else. Hope to see you there.

*Brenda Hargett, Women's Guild President*



### ANNUAL CONCORDIA SEMINARY PANTRY DRIVE

The Women's Guild is hosting a Seminary Pantry Drive to benefit the students at Concordia Seminary. Please bring paper goods, (i.e. paper towels, toilet paper, facial tissue, etc.) baby items (diapers, wipes, etc.) and feminine hygiene products. Items can be placed in the Feed My People basket and cart and will be separated out when the Guild delivers the items to the Seminary. **Collection deadline is Sunday, February 10<sup>th</sup>.**

### FREE SERVICE & MISSION PROJECT FOR LUTHERAN FAMILY AND CHILDREN SERVICES

The ladies of the Women's Guild are asking our members to please go thru your closets for any small samples or trial size body care products from hotels (i.e. shampoo, conditioners, soaps, lotions or shower caps). We will also take other small sample items from stores, dentist (toothbrushes, etc.). We are giving them to the Lutheran Family and Children Services for foster kids. LFCS send a baggie of sample items with each child that has to be put in a foster home. Sometimes overnight, sometimes longer. They can use all



the help they can get and it's a Free Mission Project for Our Church!

Please clean out your closets and give to a great cause! A basket is in the narthex for the collection of sample items until **February 13, 2011**. If you have any questions, please call Brenda Hargett. Thanks again for helping the Women's Guild Mission Project.

LET'S FILL THE BASKET!

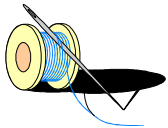
**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICE**

Please join the LWML for a World Day of Prayer Service on **Friday, February 25<sup>th</sup>** at Hope Lutheran Church, 5218 Neosho, St. Louis. This event, sponsored by the St. Louis South Zone LWML, will begin at **9:30 a.m.** with Fellowship and the prayer service will start at 10:00 a.m. They will be praying for our Church, Our Country, and Our World. All are welcome!



**LWML INFORMATION**

The purpose of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League is to help mission projects - both in Missouri and across the country. So look for the Mitebox to appear the last Sunday of each month. We ask that you pray for God's blessing on the mission projects as you make your contribution.



**CARE & SHARE** will meet on **Thursday, February 24<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m.** for the assembling of quilts, layettes, laprobes, etc.

**CHURCH FELLOWSHIP ACTIVITIES**

**SUPER BOWL CHILI/SOUP COOK-OFF**  
**SUNDAY FEBRUARY 6<sup>TH</sup> - 5:00 P.M.**

Watch the game or bring your favorite game to play!

Voting for the best soup/chili through canned food/dry goods (non-perishable) donations. One canned or dry good donation equals one vote. Snacks and Beverages Provided!

Sign-up sheet posted on Fellowship Board. Dead-line to sign-up is **Sunday, January 30<sup>th</sup>**. See Julie Graudin for more information.



**MARDI GRAS POTLUCK**  
**SUNDAY, MARCH 6<sup>TH</sup>**

You are invited to a **Mardi Gras Potluck Dinner** immediately following the 2<sup>nd</sup> service on **Sunday, March 6<sup>th</sup>**. Festivities include a mask decoration contest in three categories: children, teenage, and adult. Be creative and bring a decorated

mask. Voting for the best mask in each category will be by cash donation. Donations to be given to a person/family in need. More details in upcoming bulletins.

**FUTURE ACTIVITIES**

Board of Fellowship would like to have a *Remember When Party* (similar to the Retro party held 3 years ago). Julie is looking for suggestions and anyone willing to help plan/work this event. Possible time for this is sometime in May or June, after the second service. Please call Julie Graudin at 314-832-2266.

**YOUTH GROUP ACTIVITIES**

**SOUP-ER BOWL SUNDAY!**

Remember the hungry during the feasting on Super Bowl Sunday (**February 6<sup>th</sup>**). The youth will once again do a "Soup-er" Bowl Sunday Canned Good Drive. Please bring canned goods and soup to church. There will be youth members gathering your donations at the church doors before and after each service on that Sunday. The food will go to the Affton Community Food Pantry - right here in our own community. If you forget, that's okay - we will also accept \$. Make checks out to the Affton Food Pantry. Thanks in advance for supporting the Youth Group! COR Youth



**BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

**PARENT MEETING**

The annual meeting of parents of students interested in attending Lutheran Elementary Schools next year ("11-12) will be on **Sunday, February 6<sup>th</sup>** in the nave at **9:45 a.m.** At this time we will answer your questions about the program and distribute the Commitment Forms. Parents of 3 and 4 year olds are welcome to attend this meeting to learn about our tuition program as they plan for the future.

**MISSOURI DISTRICT JR. HIGH YOUTH**  
**SPRING RETREAT**



The Junior High Retreats focus on prayer and that theme is based on Philippians 4:6 (NIV) "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God." The retreat will be held on **March 25-27, 2011** at Camp Windermere in Roach, Missouri.

These retreats are great opportunities for young people (grades 6-8) to grow in their relationships with one another and with their Savior.

The weekend will consist of a 4-session Bible study based on the theme, plus games, fellowship, community building, a talent show and worship. The Saturday Night Fun Fest includes hayrides, board games, basketball, music and karaoke. If you would like your 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grader to attend this retreat, please see Marion Lewis or Pastor Pelsue.



### NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Please be sure you have all items/articles for the March newsletter into the church office by no later than **Monday, February 14<sup>th</sup>**. Articles may be e-mailed to secretary@reformationstl.org, faxed (314-352-7652), or placed in the church secretary's mailbox.

### RETIREES VALENTINE PARTY



Please join the Retirees as they celebrate Valentines Day on **Tuesday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 12:00 noon**. Lunch and program will be announced in upcoming bulletins.

### FAREWELL AND GODSPEED

Rev. Michael, Irene, Rachel, Jonathan and Elizabeth Paul accepted a call to St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Evansville, Indiana. Below is a note received from Rev. Paul.

*Dear Brothers:*

*Thank you for your prayers, counsel, and encouragement. After much prayerful consideration, I decided last week to accept the call to serve as Associate Pastor of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Evansville, Indiana. My primary responsibility will be to serve the Chinese of the greater Evansville area, establishing as part of St. Paul's the first ever Chinese Christian congregation in Evansville. My family and I have been busy with two visits over the past week to begin a search for long-term housing. We tentatively plan to move to Evansville within the next two weeks into temporary housing as we continue to seek a long-term solution. There is no date yet for an installation.*

*Peace in Christ, Mike*

Since the writing of this note, we have received notification of Rev. Paul's Installation. The Installation will take place on Sunday, February 27<sup>th</sup>, at 3:00 p.m.

The guest preacher is Rev. Herbert C. Mueller Jr. (LCMS 1st vice president). Reception following.

### FEBRUARY FEED MY PEOPLE MEAL-A-MONTH



**Main Menu:** Canned Tuna packed in water, Tuna Helper, canned carrots (low sodium or low salt), canned fruit in light syrup or juice, powdered milk or shelf stable boxed milk or soy milk.

**Additional Items:** Baby Care Month! Diapers, diaper wipes, formula with iron.

*We have two locations for food collection!! A new basket is in the narthex and the shopping cart has been moved to the parish hall. A half sheet insert listing the above items is located by the basket in the narthex to take along with you to the grocery store. Return the bag of groceries to the basket or shopping cart. Please - no glass containers or clothing. Thank you for your donations!*

### Not Feeling the LOVE?



February is the time of *A moiré*, love is in the air. We as consumers sometimes get caught up in the Valentine spirit of love, by giving tokens of affection. Have you ever NOT felt the love? I have, and it is those times when I turn to God for strength and forgiveness.

***"The LORD is good, a refuge in times of trouble. He cares for those who trust in him."*** Nahum 1:7

Being in Love is so wonderful, but sometimes during Valentines Day we can feel lonely. It is at this time to remember, ***"Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength."*** Deuteronomy 6:5

Show your love this Valentines Day with giving service to the Lord, visit someone you care about, an elderly neighbor, a sick child. There are so many ways to give LOVE. Do it today!

***"The most important one, is this; Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength." The second is this: "Love your neighbor as yourself." There is no commandment greater than these."*** Mark 12:29

I remember a movie scene from years ago. This small child had a Valentine heart box. She gave it to her dad, he opened the box and said "it's empty." The sad child said "no daddy, it is full of kisses"

*Judy McLean, Board of Stewardship*

---

### SEMINARY CHORUS 2011 SPRING TOUR

Concordia Seminary Chorus, under the direction of Mr. Greg Gastler, is presenting their 2011 Spring Tour. The tour begins on Friday, February 18, at 7:00 p.m. at **Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Missouri.** All are invited!

---



Salem Lutheran School, 5025 Lakewood Ave., is now enrolling for the 2011-2012 school year. An Open House will be held on **Sunday, February 13<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.** for prospective students. Please call 314.353.9242 if you have any questions.

Lutheran High School South is hosting two 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Preview Days on **Fridays, February 11<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> from 12:45 to 2:30 p.m.** If your 7<sup>th</sup> grader is interested in learning more about Lutheran High South, please contact Jayne Lauer at 314-631-2842, ext. 426 or by email at [jlauer@lhssonline.org](mailto:jlauer@lhssonline.org).

---

### CONNECTING SINGLES IN MINISTRY

The Missouri District announces the **Annual Missouri District Spring Singles Ministry Retreat** at Saint Paul Institute for Education in Concordia, Missouri, on **March 18-20, 2011.**

This weekend will gather singles of all ages from across the state for spiritual renewal, uplifting music and fellowship. The weekend includes opportunities to make new friends, community building and service opportunities, topics on singles ministry and how to take this "back home" to our congregations, Bible study and worship at a local congregation.

The registration fee of \$115 per person (double occupancy) or \$175 (single occupancy) includes program, two nights lodging, light supper on Friday evening, three meals on Saturday, and breakfast on Sunday. A deposit of \$70 is required at registration.

For more information, go to [www.mo.lcms.org](http://www.mo.lcms.org) or call Sue Thompson at 314-317-4556. Registration deadline is March 4, 2011 or when capacity is reached.



### LUTHERAN MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

A Gift You Won't Return! When was the last time you gave your marriage a gift! Why not give your spouse and yourself a great gift this season of renewal by committing to attend the next Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekend.

On the weekend, you and your spouse will be gently guided through a communication process that will deepen your relationship and communication to each other. And not only will you receive the 'gift' of greater depth and growth in your relationship, you will also renew and rekindle the sparks you had when you were first married.

A whopping 97% of couples have indicated after attending a weekend that their greatest regret is that they did not give their marriage the gift of a Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekend sooner.

The next Weekend is in South County, March 4-6 at the Holiday Inn, South Lindbergh Blvd. For more information or to register contact Tom and Kathy Von Behren at [vonbeh@sbcglobal.net](mailto:vonbeh@sbcglobal.net) or 636-343-9453. You can also check out the website at [www.stlmarriage.com](http://www.stlmarriage.com). Be sure to register by February 25<sup>th</sup> so that LME can secure your hotel and meal reservation at the special rate.

---

### LUTHERAN CONVALESCENT HOME AUXILIARY MEETING

The next meeting of Lutheran Senior Services Lutheran Convalescent Home Auxiliary is **Monday, February 28<sup>th</sup>** at the Lutheran Convalescent Home, 723 South Laclede Station Road. Linda Detring, VP of Operations for Lutheran Senior Services will speak on "Culture Change and Person-Centered Care." The afternoon begins with lunch at 11:30 a.m. and meeting follows. Please bring a sandwich, dessert is provided.

