



Church of the Reformation – Lutheran
The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod
With Christ at the Heart

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Purification and Presentation

The first Sunday in February celebrates the Purification of Mary and Presentation of Our Lord Jesus. I know that sounds a bit strange against the background of our current culture, but here's the explanation:

While motherhood and parenthood is a great privilege and honor and children are a gift from God. Since the fall - begetting children at the same time passes on to them our sinfulness and uncleanness (the condition we inherited from Adam and Eve, i.e. original sin). Leviticus 12 prescribes not only that a male child be circumcised on the 7th day, but that the mother was considered "unclean" for 7 days also and then she was to remain home another 33 days and finally was to bring a sacrifice to the temple for her purification and atonement after the total of 40 days.

In addition to this Exodus 13 and Numbers 18 specified that a first born male child was holy to the Lord, but had to be redeemed (by an offering) since the Lord rescued Israel by taking all the first born of Egypt while the first born of Israel were spared by the blood of the Paschal lamb.

These, as with other ceremonial laws, were a reminder of the sinful condition that had permeated us all and all creation, and the need for redemption and atonement that Christ would bring. So even now our Baptismal rite says "we are all conceived and born sinful and are under the power of the devil until Christ claims us as His own."

Yet another consideration enters here. It seems that Mary made a special presentation to the Lord here of Jesus as Hannah had done for Samuel in 1 Samuel chapter 1.

Mysteries here include the fact that God brought a clean thing (His Only Begotten Son, Jesus) out of an unclean thing, the virgin Mary (by nature, sinful as are we, yet greatly privileged to carry her Savior and ours). Also Jesus, the Redeemer of all, undergoes this redemption and presentation to

fulfill all righteousness for us – that we might be presented to the Lord in His righteousness, innocence, and blessedness.

In Christ,
Pastor Pelsue



**FEBRUARY
NEWS & NOTES**

SUPER BOWL PARTY
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2ND



Join us on **Sunday, February 2nd**, as we watch Peyton Manning and the Denver Broncos take on Russell Wilson and the Seattle Seahawks. Plan to arrive around 5:00 p.m. with game kick-off at 5:30 p.m. Bring some tailgate food to share (i.e. wings, pizza, hotdogs, chips and dip, etc.) and your own beverages. Come join us for some great fellowship time!

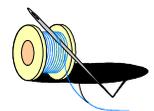
BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

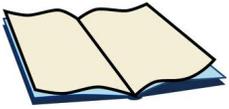


PARENT MEETING

The annual meeting of parents of students interested in attending Lutheran Elementary Schools next year ("14-15) will be on **Sunday, February 2nd** 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.

CARE & SHARE will meet on **Thursday, February 27th at 9:30 a.m.** for the assembling of quilts, layettes, laprobes, etc.





2014 BULLETIN BOOSTERS!

The New 2014 Bulletin Booster Chart is now up! If you would like to sponsor a week of church bulletins, please fill in your name on the lines under the week you would like to underwrite. Insert your check for **\$10.00** in the "Bulletin Boosters" envelope; fill in the form on the outside of the envelope; and place the envelope in the offering plate or the church secretary's mailbox. The envelopes are located next to the chart. Checks should be made payable to Reformation.

THE 2014 FLOWER CALENDAR

The new flower calendar is now up on the narthex bulletin board. If you would like to purchase flowers for the altar, fill in your name on the Flower Chart on the date you would like to reserve. Insert your check for **\$30.00** in the "Altar Flower" envelope; fill in the form on the outside of the envelope; and place the envelope in the offering plate or the church secretary's mailbox. The envelopes are located next to the chart. Checks should be made payable to Reformation. No flowers will be ordered unless the check is received in advance. Thanks for your cooperation.



NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Please be sure you have all items/articles for the March newsletter into the church office by no later than **Monday, February 17th**. Articles may be e-mailed to secretary@reformationstl.org, faxed (314-352-7652), or placed in the church secretary's mailbox.

FEBRUARY RETIREES GET-TOGETHER

At the **February 25th** Retirees' meeting we will be going back 50 years to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Beatles appearing on the Ed Sullivan Show. Activities include watching a DVD of that show and also enjoying trivia about St. Louis in honor of it's 250th birthday. Lunch will be Little Caesar's Pizza and salad. ***Screaming at the Beatles will be allowed!*** Please sign-up on the bulletin board across from the church secretary's office so that enough pizza is ordered.



MACKENZIE PLACE EVENING WORSHIP

Please join Evangelism Members at Mackenzie Place for our next evening worship service on **Thursday, February 27th** at **6:30 p.m.** This service consists of hymns, readings and

prayer. Following the service, while enjoying refreshments, we have an opportunity to visit with residents of Mackenzie Place. We encourage all interested Reformation Members to join us in this community service. If you would like to help in this outreach, please contact Jim Fink at 636-692-1145. If you are unable to attend but would still like to help, we are always in need of baked goods to follow our worship services.

NEW MEMBER ADDRESS UPDATE



I inadvertently typed an incorrect address for new member Verlene Lorenzen. I sincerely apologize to Verlene and for any confusion this may have caused. Verlene's correct address is:

3874A Connecticut St.
Saint Louis, MO 63116-4839
314-566-1851



BACH AT THE SEM CONCERT

Bach at the Sem, presented by Concordia Seminary and the American Kantorei, is in its 21st season with a full schedule of Sunday concerts. The next concert is on **Sunday, February 16th at 3:00 p.m.** in the Chapel of St. Timothy and St. Titus on the campus of Concordia Seminary in Clayton. A free will offering will be taken.

This concert features a church cantata and a Mass setting by J. S. Bach - Gott fähret auf mit Jauchzen, BWV 43, and Missa Brevis in A Major, BWV 234 - as well as a motet by Johann Pachelbel, Jauchzet dem Herrn. The congregation will join in singing Martin Franzmann's great hymn, "Thy Strong Word Did Cleave the Darkness."

AFFTON FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION



The Reformation Ladies Club is collecting food for the Affton Food Bank. All food collected goes to help families in the Affton area. Please bring the suggested items (listed below) and place in the grocery cart in the parish hall or the hamper in the narthex. The food will be taken to the Affton Food Pantry once a month.

Entrée items: Tuna, canned Ravioli, hearty beef stews, pizza mixes; and macaroni and cheese, rice etc.

Dry Pasta including Ramen noodles.

Meal Accompaniments: Tomato sauce and paste, canned peas, corn, pork n' beans, navy beans, lima beans, canned fruit.

Condiments: Ketchup, mustard, mayonnaise.
Extras: Cakes mixes, icings, Jello Mixes, and Kool-aides.
Paper Products: Toilet & facial tissue, paper towels, and laundry detergent, cleaning supplies and rubber gloves.
Hygiene: Toothpaste, deodorant, travel size shampoo & conditioner, travel size bar soap.

Thanks for your help! *Reformation Ladies Club*



Presents

THE ST. LOUIS BRASS BAND

The Award-Winning St. Louis Brass Band will present an exciting family-friendly concert of light classic and popular music on **Sunday, February 23, 2:30 PM** at **Zion Lutheran Church, 3866 Harvester Road, St. Charles, MO**. Tickets for the concert are \$7 general admission and \$5 students/seniors. Tickets are available in the church office and at the door.

UNITY HOSPICE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Are you ready to make a difference? If so, UNITY HOSPICE wants you! Volunteers are needed to visit our terminally ill patients and/or perform office duties. There are no time requirements! We provide opportunities based on your schedule. Social or church groups, families, retirees, and students – all are welcome. Make a difference in the lives of others. Call us today to sign up for an orientation! Call Brenda McGarvey at 314-645-8671 or 618-346-1111; bmgarvey@unityhospice.com.



LUTHERAN CONVALESCENT HOME

AUXILIARY MEETING

**Monday, February 24, 2014
11:30 a.m.**

The February meeting will be presented by the Missouri History Museum and the topic is “*St. Louis Turns 250.*” The meeting will take place at the Laclede Groves Auditorium, 723 So. Laclede Sta. Rd., Webster Groves. Contact Erlynne Gaebler at 314-968-6977 for reservations. A light lunch of a sandwich and dessert will be served.

LUTHERAN CHURCH EXTENSION FUND

LCEF is committed to helping congregations focus on the mission field that God has placed its members in. Seeing the mission field and creating goals is a first and critical step. The next step is to align the resources that God has provided

so that the work can begin. It is often difficult to identify and prioritize what resources are available and how they can be used. LCEF Ministry Support can assist congregations in this effort. Call 1-800-843-5233 or visit lcef.org for more information.



**GOOD SOUP, GOOD FRIENDS,
FOR A GOOD CAUSE**

Grace Place Lutheran Wellness Ministries is hosting its third annual “Soup for the Soul” friend/fundraiser event on **Sunday, February 16, 2014** from 4 -7:00 p.m. at St. John Church, 15800 Manchester Rd., Ellisville, MO - located near the intersection of Manchester and Clarkson, 4 miles west of 141. Come and enjoy a fun and unique culinary event, featuring some 20+ soups, chowders and chili provided from well-known area restaurants. Breads and desserts will also be provided to compliment the soups. Kid’s meals available. Join us at this festive culinary event which will provide your fill of food and fellowship. This event is open to the public and is family friendly, enjoyable to all ages. Valet parking available.

Tickets for the “Soup for the Soul” event are \$15 for adults (13 and older), \$5 for children (5-12) and children under 5 eat free. \$7 of the adult ticket price is tax deductible.

Grace Place is dedicated to the life-long wellness of professional church workers and has provided retreats and wellness programs for more than 5000 pastors, teachers, music directors, parish nurses and other church professionals over its 13 year history. Grace Place is a 501 (c)(3) charity with the Better Business Bureau Seal of Approval.

For more information about this event or to purchase tickets, please contact Melissa Hower at 314.578.9800, mhower@graceplacewellness.org or online at www.graceplacewellness.org.

Attention all Former Members and Friends of

PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
Crestwood, Missouri



You are invited to join current members, former members and friends of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church for their **50th Anniversary Dinner** at **Orlando Gardens Banquet Center, 8352 Watson Road** on **Sunday, March 16th at 12:30 p.m.** The guest dinner speaker is Rev. Todd Wilken of “Issues, Etc.” Tickets (\$10 for adults and \$5 for children) need to be purchased in advance. For more information, call 314-843-8448.

Un-approved Minutes for Church of the Reformation – Lutheran January 9, 2014 Church Council Meeting

PRESENT – QUORUM PRESENT – Hal Uthoff, Linda LaFlamme, Marilyn Jones, Dan Kamp, Dale Thielker, John Hargett, Brenda Hargett, Pastor Pelsue, Jack Jeffcott, Mark Bliese, Jill Pelsue and Derek Hotzel. Jim Fink was absent but excused.

Meeting was called to order by Hal Uthoff at 7:30 p.m. Derek Hotzel arrived around 7:45 and took over his duties. Pastor led the devotion from 1 Timothy 2:4.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve the council minutes from November 14, 2013 as printed.

PRESENT'S REPORT – Derek Hotzel welcomed new council members.

VICE PRESENT'S REPORT – Hal Uthoff reported that all of the candidates selected as nominees by the Nominating Committee and approved by Council, were elected to their prospective positions at the December 1, 2013 Church Voter's Meeting. Dale Thielker's name had been omitted from the candidates list for the office of Board of Finance. This issue will be brought up at new business. Council's Vice Present is responsible for annually appointing an Audit Committee which Hal will take care of and report to Council later. Hal will also be reviewing the Church By-Laws.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT – Dan Kamp spoke about figures at this time being preliminary because of the recent inclement weather. Snow removal for December was \$1,750.00, yearly organ tuning was \$450.00 and LSB Builder Software maintenance was \$147.00. Discussion was held on the \$23,000.00 gift from one of our deceased members. This could be non-weighted income and could qualify as special. Hal raised the question regarding the updating of signature cards for checking and Safety Deposit Box. This will be reviewed.

TREASURER'S REPORT – John Hargett read Dan Kamp's report. COR is fully paid on all its current expenditures. For the month, as noted with the Board of Finance Report, COR had \$20,092.00 in budgeted expenses and \$1,064.00 in non-budgeted expenses.

PASTOR'S REPORT – Pastor reported on new members, Verlene Lorenzen and Scott Powers. Transfers will be reported by the Elder Chairman. Pastor is working with two potential new members in preparation for their confirmation. He reported on hospital and in-home visits. Pastor asked for special prayers for Lorna Larson who is undergoing critical surgery. Wednesday Bible class finished their study in the Book of Concord and is currently studying the Book of Acts. Youth Catechism is going well. The Sunday morning Bible class is finishing a study on Christian vocation. The Youth Group will lead the Adult Bible Study for the next few weeks based on the movie "Soul Surfer." The holiday-scheduled services were well attended. The combined service on December 29th was also well attended with just a few people getting confused on the time change. On January 5, the blizzard Sunday, 19 people attended and were treated to a Belgium waffle breakfast in between services. The youth also shoveled snow for a nearby family of a student from Lutheran South that is terminally ill. The Mackenzie Village services are well attended with 25-32 people in attendance. The services are every 4th Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m. with refreshments following the service. All are welcome to attend. Pastor, Derek Hotzel and Dan Kamp met with Art Sommers from the Lutheran Foundation. Hal asked Pastor about the vicarage fund being rolled over to the mission fund. Pastor reported that those changes have been made at the December Voter's Meeting. Mission support for Rev. Roger James, missionary to Sri Lanka, is being pledged out of the former Vicarage Fund now the Missionary Support Fund.

BOARD OF STEWARDSHIP – Linda LaFlamme reported on the hosting of the Advent service meal on December 16th. She is gathering members of her committee. The Sunday study on vocation was sponsored by the Stewardship Committee.

BOARD OF EVANGELISM – Jim Fink absent – NO REPORT

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP – Jill Pelsue presented the Council with a list of recent events and projected events for 2014. See attached.

BOARD OF ELDERS – Mark Bliese reported on the transfer out of the Luther Baker family and Sarah Eischer. Pastor's visits included Ed and Shirley Schilling (home), Dottie and Mel Wilke, Lorene Bunyard, Gloria Lawton (hospital), Lorna Larson and Tony Dean (hospital). The Board will meet with Art Sommers from the Lutheran Foundation in February. The Epiphany service was on January 6th with 12 in attendance.

BOARD OF PROPERTIES – Jack Jeffcott reports on the installation of 2 outlets for the Moravian Star, which will hang in the Sanctuary until the end of Epiphany. Hal asked about the recent visit from Church Mutual Insurance. Jack stated that the insurance company did not get back to him as of this date about any issues or problems. The front door combination has now been changed. Sheri and Jack have a new list of those who have the combination to the lock.

BOARD OF FINANCE – Dale Thielker reported that going into December we were running a \$3,719.00 deficit but because of extra services in December, our deficit dropped to \$500.00. The contribution of \$23,000, from a member's estate, was not added to the budget so that the budget would not be inflated.

BOARD OF EDUCATION – Brenda Hargett reported that the Sunday school Christmas program was great and well attended. She wishes to thank all those who participated in the program and for all those who came to watch.

OLD BUSINESS – None.

NEW BUSINESS – A Special Voter's meeting will be called on January 26, 2014 between services to vote on the nomination of Dale Thielker to the Board of Finance that was omitted from the December Voter's meeting.

Discussion was held on adding all ongoing updated resolutions to the computer for ready access of all members. Council members should have copies of all resolutions. Mark Bliese was asked to update with Sheri on resolutions. Motion was made, seconded and passed.

Jill Pelsue made a motion that the church building exterior doors be kept locked and opened by staff or members willing to take the responsibility for any unknown person wanting entrance into the building. Much discussion was held in reference to the possible need for some type of security surveillance. The property committee will investigate and report back to council. Motion was amended, seconded and passed.

Jill Pelsue made a motion to have signage placed on or near the exterior doors directing those coming to COR for financial assistance (food, gasoline, and gifts) to be directed to the Affton Christian Food Pantry and other agencies which we are in partnership with. Discussion was held. Motion was restated, seconded and passed. Pastor Pelsue will write the signage with appropriate information included.

A motion was made that The Council uphold their decision for Rev. Henry Gerike to use the former Library for all his business and allow Christian Fellowship and the Board of Finance to use the former vicar's office and computer until otherwise stated. Discussion was held. Motion was restated, seconded and passed.

Installation of Council members will take place on January 12, 2014 in both services.

Un-decorating for Christmas will take place on Saturday, January 11, 2014.

Brenda Hargett moved to adjourn. Meeting was closed with The Lord's Prayer at approximately 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Marilyn Jones



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS



1st Karin Bartz
 2nd Michelle Borchelt
 3rd Sarah Kubasta
 10th Natalie Larson
 13th Karlee Duneman
 16th Shelly Bliese
 17th John Lewis
 18th Harriet Backhaus
 Pamela Bierman

19th Janet Grau
 Carol Grau
 20th John Michael Franklin
 Paula Jeffcott
 22nd Mary LaFlamme
 25th Garnett Huighe
 Jill Pelsue
 26th Lois Uthoff
 28th Heather Rowland

**GOD'S
 BLESSINGS TO YOU!**

February Schedule

Altar Guild Schedule:

February 2nd Both
 February 9th
 February 16th
 February 23rd

8:15 Service

Ann Miller

 Ann Miller

10:45 Service

Mary Lou Tucker
 Mary Lou Tucker

 Mary Lou Tucker

Greeters Schedule:

February 2nd
 February 9th
 February 16th
 February 23rd

Don & Karin Bartz
 Rick & Ann Miller
 Shirley Ciegel

Marilyn Jones
 Mary Lou Tucker
 Carol Reimler
 Hal & Lois Uthoff

Ushers Schedule:

John Borchelt
 Mike Klemme
 Dean Larson

John Hargett
 Jack Jeffcott

Acolyte Schedule:

February 2nd
 February 9th
 February 16th
 February 23rd

Katie Meyer
 Lucas Hung
 John Larson
 Micah Hung

Christian Liebmann
 Mary LaFlamme
 Alex Jeffcott
 John Schilling

