

*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 Saints Going in March

That's not nearly as catchy as the Dixieland song, but I'm trying to say that in March we are reminded of several saints (believers) of old:

- ❖ St. Patrick, Patron of Irish Christianity, on March 17th
- ❖ And St. Joseph, Guardian of Jesus on the 19th.

We're having a potluck themed in Patrick's memory on the 18th after church services. Patrick, son of a petty Roman official in Britain, was kidnapped by pagan Irish marauders at age 16 and enslaved in Ireland for 6 years. He escaped and returned home now dedicating his life to God's service, eventually becoming a priest. He felt drawn by God to return to Ireland to bring these pagan people to the Christian faith. He began this venture in 433 A.D. and is said to have used the shamrock as a simple way to teach the triune nature of God. (LSB Hymn #604 is attributed to St. Patrick.)

With regard to Joseph, consider the collect for that day though we will not celebrate it:

Almighty God, from the house of your servant David You raised up Joseph to be the guardian of Your incarnate Son and the husband of His mother, Mary. Grant us grace to follow the example of this faithful workman in heeding Your counsel and obeying Your commands; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Another saint to be considered in March is Mary, Mother of our Lord because March 25th is the Annunciation of Our Lord, commemorating when the angel, Gabriel, told her:

Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. [32] He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David . . . Luke 1:31-32 (ESV)

Pastor Pelsue

Vicar's Corner!



"Happy Blessed Lent"

A few weeks ago in our Pastor's study group, Dr. Norman Nagel presented the idea of having a "Happy Blessed Lent." This made me think of Lent in a new way. I had always viewed Lent as a gloomy time where we reflect and meditate on our sinful condition and that it was this condition that sent Jesus to the cross. It is also a time where we might give something up for Lent and in doing this we sometime might focus more on the thing that we gave up. We might have an attitude of, "look at me and what I have given up" and the focus is ultimately on us and what we are doing instead of what we should be focusing on.

I found that I too was focusing on these things a little more than I should have and it never occurred to me to view Lent as a blessing and the blessings that come from what Christ did for us at Calvary.

I believe that we still need to reflect on our sins and how powerless and ineffective we are at controlling our own lives and the mess that we make when we try to do it ourselves. I also think that we should focus on the blessings that came from what was done on the cross for us all by our Savior Jesus.

Jesus was the vicarious sacrifice for us all and He paid the price for all of our sins on that cross in Calvary. I pray that you can take time this Lenten season to focus on *Jesus* and to be reminded daily of the blessings that *He* has given to us with *His* victory over death and the grave. Let *Jesus* be your focus this season and every day!

Happy Blessed Lent,
Vicar Brett



MARCH NEWS & NOTES

EASTER LILIES TO BEAUTIFY THE ALTAR



Easter Lily ordering envelopes are located in the narthex on the church welcome stand. If you would like to order an Easter Lily, please fill out the order form on the envelope and put your check/cash inside. Checks should be made payable to *Reformation* and please note in the memo portion of your check "Easter Lily." Envelopes may then be placed in the offering plate or the secretary's mailbox. The cost is \$6.50 per plant. Please make sure you indicate on the envelope whether the lily is in memory of a loved one or for another occasion. Deadline March 31st.

WEDNESDAY LENTEN SERVICES

"Seven Words from the Cross"

11:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

March 7th, March 14th, March 21st, and March 28th



NOTICE OF SPECIAL VOTER'S MEETING

A Special Voter's Meeting will be held on **Sunday, March 4th at 9:45 a.m.** (between services) in the church nave.

Voting considerations are:

1. Recommendation for usage of large financial gift.
2. Nomination of open Council and Board positions.

TIME CHANGE

Daylight Savings Time begins on **Sunday, March 11th, at 2:00 a.m.** *Don't forget to set your clocks forward one hour on Saturday (3/10) before you go to bed.*



LADIES CLUB



The Ladies Club is planning a **RUMMAGE SALE** on Wednesday, April 25th. Please start saving your items but don't bring them up to church until after Easter. I will let you know dates as soon as possible. Hot selling items to watch out for are

sporting goods, infant-toddler items, books, cd's and custom jewelry, plus any clothing. No electronics (TV's; VCR's; etc.) appliances or furniture please.

We are asking for all the help we can get - setting up on Tuesday, April 24th, selling the day of the sale, and then taking down. You can contact Mary Lou Tucker at 843-7783 or Brenda Hargett at 353-3437 or let us know when you see us at church. The money will go toward replacing the much needed windows in the confirmation room.

Our next meeting will be on **March 15th at 6:30 p.m.** All ladies of the congregation are invited! We hope to see you there!

HELP ALL GOD'S CREATURES!



Stray Rescue will take empty prescription bottles and find new uses for them. From now until March 14th, bring any empty prescription bottles to church and place in the basket under the table in the narthex. Thank you.



ST. PATRICK'S DAY POT-LUCK DINNER

Please join us on **Sunday, March 18th**, immediately following the late service (12:00 noon) for a St. Patrick's Day Pot-luck Dinner. Bring an Irish Dish (or dish of your choice) and enjoy good food, fellowship and a great cause.

This event is the second fund raiser, sponsored by the Board of Church Fellowship, to help support the COR Tuition Program. To raise funds, we will have a **Shamrock Contest** where you can vote by donation for your favorite shamrock! Bring a handmade shamrock (drawn or other art form) depicting the **Trinity** for a chance to win! This contest is for all ages and talents. There will be three categories to enter and vote for your favorite - child (ages 5 thru 12); teen (age 13-19); adult (age 20 and up). Voting for your favorite shamrock in each category will be by cash donation with 100% of the proceeds going to the COR Tuition Program. Matching funds have been applied for thru Thrivent Financial for Lutherans. Sign-up sheets for attendance and to enter the contest are now up on the fellowship bulletin board.

Please help to make these fund raising events a success by casting your *Vote for Education!!!!*



NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Please be sure you have all items/articles for the April newsletter into the church office by no later than **Monday, March 19th**. Articles may be e-mailed to faxed

(314-352-7652), secretary@reformationstl.org, or placed in the church secretary's mailbox.

YOUTH GROUP LOCK-IN!



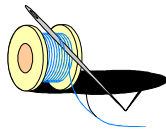
The COR Youth (ages 12 thru 18) are invited to a Lock-in on **Friday, March 23rd at 7:00 p.m. thru Saturday morning, March 24th at 7:00 a.m.** at Reformation. Activities include playing the Wii, food, games, more food, movies, even more food, etc. If you have any questions, please call Martin Liebmann at 314-544-1152.



RETIREES MARCH GET-TOGETHER!

The Retirees will get together on **Tuesday, March 27th at 12:00 noon.** Look for more details in the church announcements.

CARE & SHARE will meet on **Thursday, March 29th at 9:30 a.m.** for the assembling of quilts, layettes, laprobes, etc.



The Care Bears thank everyone who has donated material for their quilting efforts. They are always looking for **cotton material and thread.** Knits, silks, wools and other heavy fabrics are nice but cannot be used for their quilting efforts.



From the Stewardship Board

We are getting to know you better. We have started the organization of the talent inventory cards and making sure everyone here at Reformation has an updated one on file. As we are moving along with this task one thing is certain – there is a lot of talent here at Reformation! It is a reminder that God has given us everything in our lives for which we are charged to manage, care for and nurture. These gifts from God range anywhere from having an ability to play a musical instrument or sing in a church choir all the way to the Gospel itself.

We practice good stewardship of His Word by gathering together in worship and receive the Sacraments. We strive to gain a better understanding of the Gospel through Bible study and Sunday school. But there are other ways in which we act as stewards of God's Word and may not even realize it. When we fellowship with one another, when we bring a friend to one of our fellowship parties or invite other young

people to join in our Youth Group activities we are sharing God's Word with others.

We have opportunities coming up here at Reformation that give us the chance to grow in God's Word and share it with others. The One-Day Servant Event and the St. Patrick's Day Pot-luck Dinner are just a couple of events that we have in the near future to join in, share the Gospel and enjoy the fellowship with one another. We are all commanded to gladly hear, learn and spread God's Word. When we gather together, and not just during Sunday service, to share in the Gospel we all become the good stewards of the Word that God asks us to be.

Yours in Christ, Linda LaFlamme

“As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God” I Peter 4:10



FOOD PANTRY NEWS

Now for something different ...

Those who utilize food pantries are cooking on a budget. We all know herbs, spices and condiments are useful to have but they can be luxury items too!

For the month of March we are collecting those not always thought of but useful items:

cooking oils, herbs, spices, salt, pepper, minced onion or garlic, seasoning packets (i.e. taco, chili, gravy, spaghetti) and condiments

Please bring the suggested items 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. Thanks for your help!

Reformation Ladies Club



LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL SOUTH CONCERTS

The LHSS bands will present their **PRE-TOUR BAND CONCERT** on **Friday, March 2, at 7:00 p.m.** in the Kuhlmann Center at Lutheran South. The concert is held every year as a warm-up for the annual band tour. The concert will feature the school's Concert Band, Wind Symphony, and Jazz Band.

The LHSS Choirs will present their **ANNUAL SACRED CONCERT** on **Sunday, March 4, at 7:00 p.m.,** at Lutheran Church of Webster Gardens. The concert will feature music presented by the Concert Choir and Lancers Singers for their tour later in March. The concert will include the LHSS Mixed Chorus.

The community is invited to attend both concerts!

A free will offering will be taken.

UN-APPROVED MINUTES for CHURCH OF THE REFORMATION-LUTHERAN
Church Council Meeting February 9, 2012

PRESENT: Mark Bliese, Julia Graudin, Brenda Hargett, Derek Hotzel, Jack Jeffcott, Dan Kamp, Linda LaFlamme, Dan Reimler, Pat Stelzer, Dale Thielker, Lee Thielker. Pastor Pelsue, Vicar Hartwig.

The meeting was called to order at 7:33 p.m. A quorum was present. Julie had a devotion from “A View From Here”, from the LCMS Facebook page. Dan Reimler has volunteered to have the devotion in February.

The minutes of the January 12, 2012 Church Council meeting were reviewed. A correction was noted in the Board of Fellowship report. The fourth sentence should read, “ages 2 to grade 8”, not “grades 2-8. It was also noted in the New Business, third sentence, it should read, “John Hargett, if he is willing to offer advice”, instead of just “John Hargett”. Dan Kamp moved to accept the minutes as corrected. Lee Thielker seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT: Derek Hotzel amended his comments from last month to include thanks to Pastor, Sheri and all those who helped sing people in for the directory pictures. Derek read a letter from Pat Stelzer, stating she would be resigning as Chairman of the the Board of Evangelism, effective the end of March 2012. Derek finally noted that Amy Hotzel is attending Thrivent meetings on the new way they are doing matching funds for church buildings.

VICE-PRESIDENT’S REPORT: Vacant - no report.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY’S REPORT: Lee Thielker presented Dan Kamp’s report on the monthly income summary for January 2012. Regular envelopes amounted to \$16,156, with undesignated memorials totaling \$285. The subtotal toward budgeted expenses was \$17,586.64. The total income toward expenses was \$18,447.15. The full reports can be viewed on the bulletin board near the nursery.

TREASURER’S REPORT: Dan Kamp presented Dale Thielker’s report that we are current on all obligations. We had expenses of \$18,553 for January. There were \$1,366 in non-budgeted expenses. Notable expenses were \$312 congregational assessment for the 2012 Missouri District Convention, \$193 for the Winter vicarage fee and \$218 for miscellaneous carpet installation supplies. He also noted that he gave the annual report for the Board of Education tuition program to Brenda for her upcoming meeting with the parents of children participating in the program as well as prospective members.

PASTOR’S REPORT: Pastor reported on the funeral for Paul Walton, an inactive member. Pastor Quill was in town for other business, and he preached the sermon. Pastor has made numerous visits and phone calls. He reported on the birth of a baby to Ryan and Michele Miller. He helped deliver, along with the youth, welcome bags to Mackenzie Place. He has completed the preliminary vicarage report and has submitted it to the seminary. Ash Wednesday is February 22, with a theme on the seven last words of Christ. Pastor, Vicar and Henry will preach. Pastor is looking for sponsors for Lenten meals before the Wednesday services. Pastor attended the circuit forum, where the Rev. Dr. Ray Mirly gave a state of the district. He noted the upcoming Vitae Society meeting. He noted he had sent a memo to all ushers for procedures in case of inclement weather. He sent an e-mail to various congregational members about upcoming district “Kitchen Sink Workshops”. He is working with Lifetouch on the brochure for the stained glass windows. He wanted to thank Andrea Brunsvold for the work she put in on the brochure. We will be spending \$100 for 1000 copies. Pastor had received a request from Pastor Bruce J. von Hindenburg, of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Inglewood California, to allow use of a picture of our stained glass window on confession and absolution for a brochure for an upcoming catechism convocation. They had found the picture on our web site. Pastor moved we allow them to use the picture, as well as have proper acknowledgement of our congregational permission on the brochure. Dale seconded Pastor’s motion. Unanimous approval was given. Pastor also asked for Jill, if she may have permission to have periodic dinners for the Vitae Society at our church. It was the consensus of the council to grant her permission to hold these periodic dinners. Pastor was asked by a council member if we will be submitting for a vicar this year, which he answered in the negative because of the funding.

VICAR’S REPORT: Vicar had visits with Trudy McClees and Sharon Burgeois. He is going to follow up with Trudy McClees. He has made follow-up calls on shut-ins. He continues his preaching on a regular schedule. He went with eighteen members of Salem Lutheran Church, Affton and Faith Lutheran Church, Oakville to Joplin. He helped deliver welcome bags to Mackenzie Place. He is continuing to work on his Evangelism Module. He noted that he worked with Andrea on a new welcome brochure. He is continuing the Monday night Bible study on Galatians. He gave an update on his mother’s health.

BOARD OF STEWARDSHIP: Linda LaFlamme stated that Diana Meyer is helping her update the talent cards. Stuart Brassie, from the Missouri District office, has been consulted on stewardship matters. Green Park’s principal has been consulted about having their children’s choir come to Reformation at a future date. Linda has signed up for a “Kitchen Sink Workshop” from the Missouri District.

BOARD OF EVANGELISM: Pat Stelzer stated the “reenergizing of the boat” is continuing. Small slips are in the boat to take with a few fish, so we can continue speaking with neighbors and acquaintances to share information for “soul food” and give a report back to the Board of Evangelism on any results, both positive and negative. Pat also stated the Easter event is beginning to be planned.

BOARD OF FELLOWSHIP: Julie Graudin stated 25 attended the SuperBowl party. Derek Hotzel won the chili contest, Jenny Gastler won the soup contest (Split Pea Soup). \$106.10 was collected and will be matched by Thrivent. The Valentine party has 20-25 signed up. Possible game would be Bible baseball, with family against family. Julie is planning a St. Patrick's Day potluck, along with a shamrock art contest and Bible races. A talent show is being planned for September or October. In July we will have a farewell party for Vicar and his family.

BOARD OF ELDERS: Dan Reimler reported the elders met February 1. No membership matters to report. Dan noted the funeral of Paul Walton. An Elder Sunday is being planned, but no firm date has been set.

BOARD OF PROPERTIES: Jack Jeffcott noted he had used the MoDOT website to submit a repair order for potholes on the street side of the upper parking lot. Brad Jones will come and check the roof furnace over the kitchen for needed service.

BOARD OF FINANCE: Dale Thielker presented Lee Thielker's report, noting we had a deficit of \$721 for the month of January. We have \$23,308 cash available for budgeted expenses, and the Vicarage Fund has a balance of \$12,487

BOARD OF EDUCATION: Brenda Hargett reported she will meet with the parents of the Elementary Education Tuition Program February 12 at 9:45 a.m. Next month she will report the outcome of the meeting. She mentioned her pride in the confirmation students and parents for delivering 25 welcome bags to the "Welcome to Affton Program". She stated the Sunday school is looking forward to the Valentine party sponsored by the Fellowship Committee. CPH is having a Sunday school curriculum conference the same day. They are making changes to our current curriculum, "Growing in Christ" and they are presenting a new one for group settings. Sharon Burgeois and Shelly Bliese will attend. The children have been coloring "Alleluias" for Transfiguration Sunday.

OLD BUSINESS:

- The Ad-hoc Financial Planning Subcommittee has met twice. Subcommittee members Pastor, Dale and Lee Thielker, Dan Reimler, Derek Hotzel and Dan Kamp were in attendance. They met on January 26 from 6:30-8 p.m. and February 8 from 7-8:30 p.m. Dan Kamp made the presentation to the Church Council and gave their recommendations. Dan Kamp moved to accept the structure of the Ad-hoc subcommittee proposal. Dale Thielker seconded the motion. Unanimous approval was given. Lee Thielker moved to accept the recommendations of the Ad-hoc subcommittee, specifically the 2012 budget increases and 2012 congregational challenge, which will be presented to the voters. Jack Jeffcott seconded the motion. Unanimous approval was given.
- No meeting by the Ad-hoc media subcommittee to date.
- Mark Bliese made some clarifications on the new electronic newsletter process and procedure. This was because of some confusion by members on the process and how it was being provided. The electronic newsletter is being provided in Adobe PDF, unless someone wants a Microsoft Word format. The newsletter is being e-mailed and a link is included in the e-mail to the church's web site newsletter and calendar location. Currently 60 copies are being printed; fifteen for shut-ins and 45 for the narthex. Currently nine copies were left from January. Only shut-ins will have the newsletter mailed, all others are encouraged to pick them up at church.

NEW BUSINESS: None

ADJOURNMENT: Dan Reimler moved to adjourn. Jack Jeffcott seconded the motion. Meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m., closing with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Mark J. Bliese, Secretary



MARCH BIRTHDAYS!



3rd Amy Hotzel
 4th Charles Autry
 7th Tereasa Bierman
 Ralph Meier
 Mildred Wotli
 8th Jessica Menendez
 9th Melford Wilke
 11th Patricia Haas
 12th Diana Meyer
 14th Virginia Kirkwood

John Larson
 15th Christian Liebmann
 16th Katie Meyer
 19th Frank Stubits, Jr.
 20th Joseph Venn
 21st Lindsay Miller
 Deb Eischer
 23RD Greg Gastler
 25th Gatlin Kalbfell

26th Tyler Schrader
 27th Marissa Lewis
 29th Nancy Kamp
 31st Aaron Borchelt

**GOD'S BLESSINGS TO
 YOU!**

March Schedule

Altar Guild Schedule:

March 4th
 March 11th
 March 18th
 March 25th

Greeters Schedule:

March 4th
 March 11th
 March 18th
 March 25th

Ushers Schedule:

Acolyte Schedule:

March 4th
 March 11th
 March 18th
 March 25th

8:15 Service

Lisa Adams

Lisa Adams

John & Lynne Borchelt
 Sandy Townsend
 Jamie & Maura McAlister
 Shirley Ciegel

Don Bartz
 Dan Dowling
 Richard Koenig
 Mike Klemme

Katie Meyer
 Philip Bliese
 Micah Hung
 John Larson

10:45 Service

Inga Duke

Inga Duke

Mark & Deb Eischer
 Mark & Julie Graudin
 Norma Grau
 Dennis & Jan Schrader

Dale Thielker
 Lee Thielker

Christian Liebmann
 Haven Liebmann
 Mary LaFlamme
 John Schilling

