

From the Desk of the Pastor

April 1st will mark the end of our 40-day Red Letter Challenge at Covenant. I was very pleased that we gave out almost 60 books to members of Covenant and a few of our teachers at Northwest Lutheran School. Through our Sunday morning sermon series and the livestream of our services, many more people were able to hear the words of Jesus and think about what it means to be a follower of Jesus Christ.

So, how are you doing with the challenge? Will you finish well? Did you start strong but fizzle out along the way? I found the daily readings to be a blessing. Of course, it's one thing to read the words of Jesus. It's another thing to put them into practice in our daily lives. Some of the challenges were quite simple; things that you are already doing as a follower of Jesus. Others were more difficult. Hence, the name the Red Letter *Challenge*. Jesus did not die a terrible death on the cross and then rise to life again so we could just sit on the sidelines. We have been saved from sin and made alive in Christ so we could put our faith into practice. What follows is a simple summary of the five principles identified through the words of Jesus in the Red Letter Challenge.

Being: Holy Week and Easter are approaching quickly. This first principle is all about who I am because of the death and resurrection of Jesus. He paid for all my sin at the cross. Because He lives, I will live forever. I am saved by grace through faith in Christ alone. To run the race well, to finish the race, and receive the prize of heaven, I need to keep my eyes fixed on Jesus. It's important for us to BE with Christ in worship, Bible reading, daily devotions, in prayer and meditation.

<u>Forgiving</u>: The living room couch may look good on the outside, but underneath the cushions there is a lot of junk. We, too, may look good on the outside, but deep inside there is a lot of hurt and pain, guilt and shame. The Good News is that Jesus died to pay the price for all that sin. We are forgiven in Him. God forgives all who repent and turn to Him. Do you forgive yourself? Can you forgive others? It's possible through the power of the cross!

<u>Serving:</u> We are saved to serve. We want to serve God and others because that's how God wired us. The world we live in says "Me First." But God empowers us to put others first, to think about the needs of others, to serve others in Jesus' name. We find the greatest fulfillment in life when we contribute rather than simply consume. There are so many ways to serve in the congregation, in our families, in the workplace, and among our friends and neighbors.

<u>Giving</u>: Jesus had much to say about money and giving. Money can become an idol in our lives. We never seem to be content. We never have enough. Jesus said, "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth . . but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven" (Matt 6:19-21). The way we manage our money says a lot about where our heart is. God has given us money so we can bless others, especially those who are in need.

<u>**Going:**</u> Forty days after the Resurrection, Jesus appeared to His disciples and said, "Go and make disciples of all nations" (Matt 28:19). The Good News of life and salvation in Jesus Christ is too good to keep to ourselves. So often we think – someone else will do it, someone else is more gifted as an evangelist. But God calls each of us to let our light shine, to share our hope in Jesus wherever we are. Where is God sending you to let your light shine?

I thank God for this special time to focus on what it really means to be a Christian, a follower of Jesus Christ. We have been saved for a purpose. We are empowered by God to live for Him. Even when we have finished the book The Red Letter Challenge, the principles we have studied remain. I pray that you are committed to Being, Forgiving, Serving, Giving, and Going until Christ comes again or calls you home.

Pastor Steve Voigt

Official Acts

<u>Funeral</u>

Allen Johnson

(March 25, 1937—January 27, 2023) Service was held at Bevsek-Verbick Funeral Home in West Allis on February 3.

<u>Address Changes</u>

Marion Braatz

The Courtyard at Sussex W236 N6350 Hickory Dr. Sussex, WI 53089

Dawn & Jimmy Degnan

122 S Grandview Blvd. Waukesha, WI 53188

Carrie Fuchsberger

W129 N68899 Northfield Dr. Apt. 338 Menomonee Falls, WI 53051

Augie & Marcia Hottinger

Oak Park Place 1621 Rivers Bend #121 Wauwatosa, WI 53226

Carol Munz

Luther Manor 4545 N 92nd Street #2824 Wauwatosa, WI 53225

SPECIAL GIFTS

Birthday Fund	\$86
DCF Grant	\$3,835
Helping Hands Food Pantry	\$40
Initial Offering	\$15
Roof Collection	

MEMORIALS

June Reinicke Memorial—\$150

<u>Ushers</u>

<u>9:00</u> Keith Rosynek Bryan Meyer Dale Meyer Leann Meyer Marcia Rosynek Michael Weiss Tim Wrangell

<u>10:30</u>

Rick Winn Everett Dassow Bob Schultz Tim Wallinger

Altar Guild

Kaye Maletzke Diana Lafford Diana Streil Marcia Rosynek

Church Info & Staff

CHURCH OFFICE PHONE:

414-464-2410 WEB SITE: covenantlutheranmke.com E-MAIL: covenantlutheran@sbcglobal.net FACEBOOK: Covenant Lutheran Church OFFICE HOURS: Mon. - Thurs.; 8:30am - 2:30pm PASTOR: Steven Voigt pastorvoigt@sbcglobal.net DIRECTOR OF OUTREACH: Karen Winefeld CHURCH SECRETARY: Alyssa Gottsacker

FACILITY MANAGERS: Steve Dasher & Jim Richter CHOIR DIRECTOR/ORGANIST: Bill Laesch

CECC Info

EARLY CHILDHOOD PHONE: 414-438-9712 E-MAIL: covenantkids1@sbcglobal.net EARLY CHILDHOOD HOURS:

Mon. - Fri.; 6am - 6pm **Director:** Joely Douyette

April 2023

Sun	Mon	 Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
] 10:30am Easter Egg Hunt
2 8:00am Bible Study 9:00am Worship w/ Communion 9:00am Sunday School 9:00am 5-7th Confirmation 10:30am Worship Sunday of the Passion	3	4 3:45pm 8th Confirmation	5 8:30am NW Chapel	6 6:30pm Worship Maundy Thurs .	7 1:00pm Worship 6:30pm Worship 8:00pm AA Mtg. Good Friday	8
9 7:00am Worship 8:00am Easter Breakfast 9:00am Worship w/ Communion 10:30am Worship w/ Communion	10 Office Closed	11 3:45pm 8th Confirmation	12 8:30am NW Chapel	13 10:00am Bible Study	14 8:00pm AA Mtg.	15
Our Lord 16 8:00am Bible Study 9:00am Worship w/ Communion 9:00am Sunday School 9:00am 5-7th Confirmation 10:30am Worship Second Sunday After Easter	17	18 3:45pm 8th Confirmation	19 8:30am NW Chapel 8:00pm AA Monthly Mtg.	20 10:00am Bible Study	21 8:00pm AA Mtg.	22
23 8:00am Bible Study 9:00am Worship w/ Communion 9:00am Sunday School 9:00am 5-7th Confirmation 10:30am Worship Third Sunday After Easter	24	25 3:45pm 8th Confirmation	26 8:30am NW Chapel	27 10:00am Bible Study	28 8:00pm AA Mtg.	29
30 8:00am Bible Study 10:00am Worship 11:00am Lunch Fourth Sunday After Easter						

LWML—Heart to Heart Women of All Nations Annual Multicultural Event

Saturday, April 15 Registration opens at 8:30 a.m.

The day will include worship, presentations from various ministries, and delicious food.

LWML Spring Rally Saturday, April 22 Registration opens at 8:30 a.m.

> Bible study with Pastor Dean Dummer of Zion & guest speaker is Dottie Enters from Eyewitness for Life

Church Events

- Mar 28 Egg Filling
- Mar 29 Lenten Worship
- Apr 1 Easter Egg Hunt
- Apr 6 Maundy Thursday
- Apr 7 Good Friday
- Apr 9 Easter Breakfast
- Apr 9 Easter Sunday
- Apr 15 LWML Heart to Heart at Immanuel
- Apr 19 Women of Covenant
- Apr 22 LWML Spring Rally at Zion
- Apr 30 Fifth Sunday
- May 21 Confirmation
- May 28 Summer Worship Schedule starts
- June 8 Northwest Graduation
- June 12-16 VBS (9am start)
- June 21-25 Family Camping

Birthdays

April 2 Marcia Rosynek April 3 Rachel Kopp April 4 Chad Winn April 10 Lynda Kopp April 13 Deborah Johnston April 14 Bev Johnson Maria Riley April 15 Debbie Frank April 17 Judythe Anson Connor Eiff Alex Gottsacker Judy Weiss April 22 Ryan Kerby Kortney Maletzke

<u>April 23</u> Paighten Smith April 24 Judy Omet Ben Winefeld April 25 Len Ernst Eric Winn April 28 Jadee Krueger



Women of Covenant Wednesoloy, April 19 At 11:30 o.m.

Don't be afraid to bring a friend. This is a wonderful opportunity to get out of the house and get to know some women of your Covenant family. Bring a sandwich and join us for fellowship. Sign up today at the Narthex table if you are planning on attending or bringing a dessert.





SATURDAY, APRIL 1 AT 10:30 AM

AGES: 1 YEAR OLD TO 4TH GRADE! DON'T FORGET YOUR BASKET! MEET IN THE PARKING LOT! RAIN OR SHINE! NO COST!

Covenant

COVENANT LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER APRIL 2023 – VOLUME 59

Worship Schedule

September to May

Worship Times: Sunday - 9:00am & 10:30am

Family Education Hour: Sunday - 9:00am

Communion Service: 1st & 3rd Sunday - 9am 2nd & 4th Sunday - 10:30am

Summer Schedule

Memorial Day to Labor Day Sunday - 9:30 am Wednesday - 6:30 pm



8121 West Hope Avenue Milwaukee, WI 53222

