

Dear Fellow Servant

Waiting is hard work
But it occupies
A large part of our lives
Over which we have no control

From traffic lights to chemo
From mid-winter to spring
From construction to finish
We are obliged to wait

We don't do well with waiting
Living in a "hurry up" kind of world
But waiting is the path to patience
Reminding us to "be" instead of to "do"

Waiting opens our hearts
To a bigger vision of the world
In which we are temporary participant
Instead of supreme authority

It is in the waiting times
That God's fingerprints
Become more obvious
Our need for God's presence clear

God is in the business of waiting too
Waiting for us to remember
Waiting for us to turn around
Waiting to embrace us once again

The incarnation of grace
That began long ago in Mary's child
Yet continues in the subtly of every day
Gods promise is still one of presence

Waiting is hard work
It forces us to pause
And when we do
God's grace surrounds us again

And we find peace

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LENT BEGINS THIS MONTH:

We will be offering soup and salad suppers before Wednesday evening worship during Lent. If you can contribute soup or a desert, please see the inserts that will be in the Sunday bulletins beginning February 5th. A special thanks to Ann Leister for coordinating this seasonal ministry. Below, find a schedule of Lenten events.

Tuesday—February 21st—Shrove Tuesday

The Board of Ed is planning an event at IHOP; watch the bulletins and your mailbox for details.

Wednesday, February 22nd—Ash Wednesday

5³⁰ PM Soup & Salad for Lent

7 PM Ash Wednesday Worship with Communion & Imposition of Ashes

Midweek worship for Lent, preceded by the Soup & Salad Suppers, will be held on February 22nd (Ash Wednesday), February 29th, March 7th, March 14th, March 21st and March 28th.

Palm Sunday is April 1st.

There will be a service for Maundy Thursday on April 5th at 7 PM.

We will have a Tenebrae service for Good Friday on April 6th at 7 PM.

Easter is April 8th.

We will be offering the lapel cross challenge again this year. On Ash Wednesday we will be giving out lapel crosses for you to wear every day during Lent. If someone asks you about yours, we ask that you give them the cross, and then pick up another cross to wear when you come back to church. This has been a very meaningful ministry for both the givers and the recipients of these crosses.

MEMORIAL LUNCHEON ON JANUARY 14 for Hjordis Lindberg: Thank you to all who helped to set up, prepare food, clean up and help with the dishwasher, also the beautiful roses adorning the tables. Words cannot express my appreciation for all of you when called upon to help and prepare food for memorial luncheons. -Shirley Nester

MY FAMILY AND I are grateful for your prayers, cards, and thoughts given to us regarding the death of my sister and the recovery of my niece, Felicia. She has advanced to hospital therapy and is doing well at this time. I thank you. Tom Harden.

THANKS TO ALL OF YOU who brought delicious food to us. It has been so helpful to return home from our many appointments to quick-fix meals. We appreciate your thoughts and prayers. God is helping all three of us. Blessings to all of you. Beth, Bob & Phyllis Murray

THE LORD'S CUPBOARD Girl Scout Daisy Troop #115 held a Food drive in December to benefit the Lord's Cupboard. They managed to collect and donate an impressive amount of food: 7 large boxes plus 8 bags. We are very grateful for their generous support of our ministry. Our current needs are toilet paper, 64oz. Bottles of 100% Apple Juice, spaghetti sauce and bars of soap. We are also, once again, in need of boxes.

DEAR FRIENDS AT OUR SAVIOR:

I can't thank you enough for your prayers, cards, and phone calls expressing your concern for me during my recent journey with cancer. When all of the prescribed chemo treatments were finished, I was disappointed to find that 3 tests still resulted in the possible presence of lymphoma. But I knew that God was in control, and after a quick trip to day surgery, and after another bone marrow biopsy, the good news was confirmed...I am now cancer free! I received this confirmation on December 19th, a wonderful Christmas gift. With Jesus walking with me, and with your prayer support, I am now in recovery.

As we sang recently at LCOS:

*"Rejoice, rejoice! Take heart in the night,
Though dark the winter and cheerless,
The rising Sun shall crown you with light,
Be strong and loving and fearless.
Love be our song and love our prayer
And love our endless story;
May God fill ev'ry day we share
And bring us at last into Glory."*

A graphic where the word 'THANK' is in a tall, outlined, blocky font, and 'YOU' is in a similar outlined font. The words 'thank you' are written in a cursive script across the middle of the 'THANK' and 'YOU'.

Thanks again, Jean Kiefer

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

“I Love You”

One of the best known days in February is Valentine’s Day. Some people are tempted to call February 14th a “Hallmark Holiday”. Little wonder; in our country over 7 billion Valentine’s Day cards are purchased each year. Most of these cards say “I love you” in one way or another. But what does “I love you” mean?

Some would say that those words refer to being physically attracted to a person of the opposite sex. While it is true that attractiveness can draw people together, we need to remember that physical attractiveness changes over time. Yes, it is an important kind of love, but it does not have the same lasting power as other forms of love. Others would say that “I love you” means you are my special friend. Good friends are sweet blessings in this life as we find things that we enjoy doing with certain people we like and with whom we have so much in common. A friendship kind of love is very special, but sadly, we know from experience, that friends come and go.

There is a deeper understanding of what it means to say “I love you”. The word that comes to mind for many Christians is *agape*, which we call God’s kind of love. It is unconditional and keeps reaching out to other people even when they may not return this kind of love. That is certainly true of God’s love for us sinners. Even when we say and do sinful things God’s love reaches out to us. As the scriptures teach, “*While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.*” (Romans 5:8 – NIV) Jesus himself said in John 15:13 (NIV): “*Greater love has no one than that he lay down his life for his friends.*” 1Corinthians 13:4-8a (NIV) describes *agape* love this way: “*Love is patient, Love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails.*”

The apostle John wrote in 1 John 3:1 (NIV): “*How great is the love the Father has lavished on us that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!*” Good and godly children imitate the positive characteristics of their good and godly parents. As the children of God through Jesus Christ we imitate the love of our Father in heaven. “*We love because He {God} first loved us.*” (1 John 4:19 – NIV) What does our Father in heaven delight in doing? John 3:16 (NIV) says it so well: “*For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.*”

God delights in loving and giving. Empowered by the Holy Spirit we are God’s children, God’s disciples, God’s stewards. There is no better witness to what it means to be a child of God than for us to use all of life and life’s resources in a way that brings glory to God and blessings to those whose lives we touch. May our “I love you” always be God’s kind of love, God’s *agape* love.

HAITI—2 YEARS LATER

Prayers of Thanksgiving are offered by the Synod's Office of International Mission to donors and partners in response to the catastrophic earthquake in January 2010 that resulted in more than 300,000 deaths and an estimated 600,000 still staying in displacement camps. This office would also like to communicate how their donations have been used. Aid was distributed primarily through the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Haiti and the Lutheran Church of Haiti and was focused on projects in 7 main ministries:

*Emergency food, water, clothing and medical supplies sent in more than 80 shipping containers by Orphan Grain Train

*Debris cleanup, with more than 3,000 sites cleared and some 330 temporary houses provided

*An orphanage support project that gave clean water and sanitation facilities to 5 Haitian orphanages

*Clean water wells and sanitary latrines at 5 Lutheran schools, as well as disease-prevention education

*Villages built in three areas that include 67 homes and 2 six-unit apartment buildings. 2 new churches and 2 new medical clinics were also built.

*Long-term medical strategy which will include four medical clinics and one dental clinic

*4 emergency Mercy Medical Teams were equipped and served immediately following the quake, and another team worked to combat the cholera epidemic.

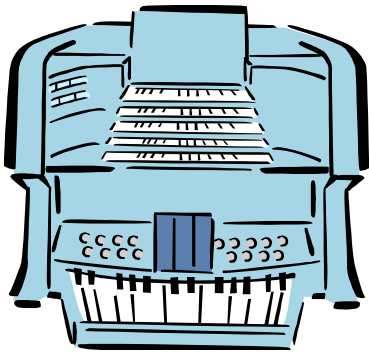
The outcome of those touched by Christ's mercy through the work of the church is that several families have been baptized and joined the local Lutheran churches. The three villages were dedicated in January and have a capacity for about 300 residents each. However, funding is almost depleted and prayers are requested to provide for those who remain in displacement camps. For more information, please call 888-930-4438. submitted by Jean Kiefer

SAND DOLLARS will have their next meeting on Tuesday, February 28 at 10am. Following the meeting we will visit the Milton Historical Society for a tour followed by lunch out. The program for February is collecting, packing and shipping Personal Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief. We invite the CONGREGATION to assist by donating any of the following:

- * LIGHT weight bath towels (max size 52x27) DARK colors
- * 4-5 oz. bath soap in original packaging
- * Adult size toothbrushes
- * Sturdy combs--those sold in multipacks are usually not strong enough
- * Metal nail clippers with or without a file attached

Items may be left in the totes in the Narthex. Thank you in advance. Hope to see YOU the 28th. (Don't forget your mites.)





ORGAN FUND

Since our 25 year old organ has ceased to function and been judged not worth repairing, we now have a designated organ fund and invite you to consider donating to a new instrument. The Board of Worship is still in the process of doing the research on available church organs, but we have come to the conclusion that any organ we end up purchasing will cost approximately \$300 per key. We are accepting donations to this fund of any size, so don't feel obligated to purchase an entire key. On the other hand, if you would like to buy a whole octave, we would welcome that donation as well. Please make checks payable to Lutheran Church of Our Savior with "organ fund" on the notation line.

HERE IS A WAY TO SUPPORT ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN at NO COST to you. We will begin collecting all national manufacturers' used ink and toner cartridges for them to return for a recycling rebate . Please give your used Epson, HP, Brother, Canon, Lexmark etc. cartridges to Carole Peterson and she will get them to OGT. Questions--call 430-7685. Thank you in advance.

JAKE'S SEAFORD RESTAURANT FUNDRAISER

20% will be given to Sand Dollars on total amount spent by LCOS members on any meal they buy at Jake's on Sunday, February 26th. A voucher for this fundraiser will be put in everyone's mailbox the first week in February. You must have the voucher to give to the server in order for your meal purchase to qualify. Please mark your calendars and join us to make this a successful Fundraiser. Call Willa Jones with any questions (610-742-0161)

POLAR BEAR PLUNGE Held on Rehoboth Beach, this event is the largest fundraiser for Delaware Special Olympics. Of the over 1000 plungers, several, including Ethan Lennox, Kelsey and Don Minyon, Cassandra Petersen, Bruce Egolf, Sarah Bennett, Riley Finnegan and Lizzie Finnegan, are from our own congregation. If you have questions or would like to sign up to either sponsor a Polar Bear or be a Polar Bear, please see Pr. Schaefer or Kat Borchers. If you write a check to cover your pledge please make it out to "Special Olympics Delaware".



HELP NEEDED

We are seeking babysitters for the nursery we offer during the 9:30 and 11 AM services. If this is a ministry with which you can help, please contact Lois Shoemaker at 645-9649 or Jane Richter at 670-8058.

February's Prayer calls

Treatment

Michelle Fritz
 Ted Kardash
 Sherry Shultz
 Amanda Smith
 Irvin Morey
 Virginia Inkrote
 Brent Cochran
 Miriam Logan
 Howard Detwiler
 Winnie Leavel
 Mike Leavel
 Norma Black
 Fred Hand
 Jerry Kelly
 Jenny Caley
 Al Holloway
 Ernest Fair
 Dot Lewis
 John Starcevisch
 Sarah Johnson
 Ada Rife
 Barbara Kuntz
 Larry Sims
 Michael O'Shea
 Ed Thress
 Mikala D'Iorio
 Jean Kiefer
 Jeff Young
 Leatrice Egolf
 Herman Wilkes
 Shirley Nester
 Louise Dasler
 Al Snapp
 Herb Dutt
 Bev Andrion
 Don White
 Beth Murray

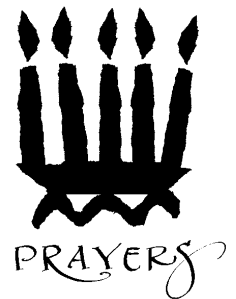
Cancer

Mary Cade
 Randy Egolf
 Joan Fetterman

Alan Goodfriend
 Audrey Greene
 Bob Kardash
 Morgan Kilpatrick
 Ann Kolb
 Carol Losch
 Seta Martin
 Mary Rauser
 Ted Strenger
 Dawn Weber
 David Bokeno
 Mary Jensen
 Chris Gushin
 David Sherman
 Virgie Fajardo
 Sandy Deal
 David Chirinos
 Thom Pemberton
 Beth Ann Alcaro
 Barbara Weiderhold
 Miriam Willits
 Rick Rogers
 Michael Blakely
 Richard Leister
 Linda Blyth
 Barbie Anderson
 Marisol
 Linda Griffith
 Mary Huyck
 Doris DeFilippis
 Helen Oetting
 Melly Adams
 Connie Alexander
 Roy Couch
 Bob Palese
 Delores Tanger
 Sally Schneider
 Josh Lord
 Wanda Fowler
 Jeff Wilson
 Neida Pruitt
 Kyle Sutherland

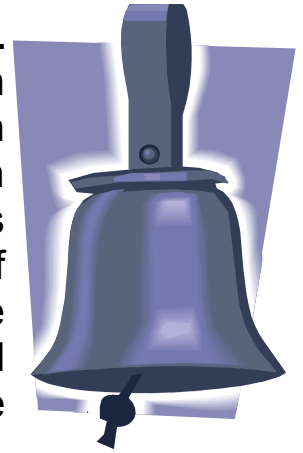
Lorene Stepanski
 Ron Smith
 Bobby Osborn
 Helena Pepper
 Nelson Eckert
 John Ulicny
 Wilson (Bill) Rowe
 Sylvia Diehl
 Debbie Kagen
 Daniel English
 Harry Ritthaler
 Don Hutton
 Margaret Robinson
 Peter Anthony Man-
 zoni
 Gerald Davidson
 Tom Holms
 Candy Todd
 Jack Hoskinson
 Emily Murphy
 Fred Newman
 Pat Snyder
 George Hutzelman
 Mike Kardash
 Rita Wehr
Our Troops
 Brian Akerstrom
 Timothy Alexander
 Richard Ashton
 Lisa Marie Butts
 Robert Canario
 John Derosa
 Freddi Foster
 Zach Garnwer
 Kyle Hamm
 Francis Heck III
 Jeffrey Hodge
 Christopher Howard
 Nicholas Imperial
 Storm Kruczek
 Brad Leary
 Ben Lee

Dan Lorenz
 Robbie Mayer
 Shawn Morgan
 Breanne Roeckers
 Rob Roeckers
 John Schenck, Jr.
 John Sholts
 Richard Sholts
 Ethan Smith
 Michael Tokar
 Ben Tyson
 Eugene Vecere
 B.J. Vickers
 Justin Webb
 Chris Zielinski
 Greg Zielinski
Our Shut-ins
 Melly & Linus Adams
 Norma Bennett
 Betty Lou Cassell
 Helen Holmgren
 Nancy Pierson
 Jim & Jill Andreas



THE FIRST EVER LEWES-REHOBOTH HANDBELL FESTIVAL

will be held on Saturday, February 18th at 4:30 PM at Epworth United Methodist Church. Join handbell choirs from Epworth United Methodist Church (Judith Moore, director), The Lutheran Church of Our Savior (Meldene Gruber, director), and St. Peter's Episcopal Church (T.J. Thomas, director) for an afternoon of beautiful handbell music. Music will include great hymns of the church, newly composed pieces, spirituals, and congregational singing. In addition to ringing several pieces together, each of the 3 choirs will ring individual selections.



There is no charge for admission, but a free will offering will be collected to support the Lewes-Rehoboth Association of Churches' Community Resource Center. Please contact the Epworth Church Office with any questions, (302) 227 - 7743.

Those Who Serve - January 2012

Eucharistic Assistants

Feb-05 8:00 Deb Lennox
 Feb-12 11:00 Barbara Morris
 Feb-19 8:00 Louis Jones
 Feb-26 11:00 Gwen Harden

Liturgical Assistants

Feb-05 8:00 Bob Fellows
 Feb-12 11:00 Marge Kunkle
 Feb-19 8:00 Darlene Botts
 Feb-26 11:00 Tom Harden

Crucifers

Feb-05 8:00 Marcia Pokoyski
 Feb-12 11:00 Pat Campbell-White
 Feb-19 8:00 Jan Effinger
 Feb-26 11:00 Bob Fellows

Altar Care

5-Feb Hester Chinchar
 12-Feb Barbara Morris
 19-Feb Marge Doyle

Acolytes

Feb-05 8:00 Madison Bada
 11:00 Colby Skelly
 Feb-12 8:00 Sarah Bennett
 11:00 Nate Price
 Feb-19 8:00 Madison Bada
 11:00 Colby Skelly
 Feb-26 8:00 Sarah Bennett
 11:00 Nate Price

Readers

Feb-05 8:00 Barbara Morris
 11:00 Donna Egolf
 Feb-12 8:00 James Lorenz
 11:00 Art Johns
 Feb-19 8:00 Bill Noweck
 11:00 Judith Barton
 Feb-26 8:00 Don Schneck
 11:00 Nancy Turner

