

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK OF February 22-March 1, 2009

(Please take this Parish Life insert home with you!)

TODAY **8:30 & 9:45, 11 a.m. Worship Services**
 9:45 a.m. Sunday School
 9:45 a.m. Confirmation Class
 9:45, 11 a.m. Adult Forums
 11:00 a.m. SR ALYVE Breakfast Club (Conf. Rm.)
 12:15 p.m. Faith Journey (Fireside Rm.)
Blood Pressure Checks today!

MONDAY 9:00 a.m. Quilters
 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts

TUESDAY 10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting
 10:00 a.m. Bible Study at Mortvedt
 5:15 p.m. Kid's Club
 Music Groups (see box)
 5:30 p.m. Fully Alive Bible Study
 6:10 p.m. Montana Trip Mtg.

WEDNESDAY 9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study
 10:00 a.m. Pre-School Chapel
 NO Noon Bible Study this week
 1:30 p.m. Rachel Circle @ TLRC
 4:30 p.m. Worship & Music Committee

 5:45 p.m. Church Night (see box)
 6:15 p.m. SR ALYVE Bible Study
7:30 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service

THURSDAY 5:30 p.m. Youth Music Drama Team
 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir
 7:00 p.m. The Journey — Young Adults Group

FRIDAY 8:30 a.m. Bulletin Assembly

SATURDAY 12:30 p.m. Serve at Nativity House

NEXT SUNDAY **8:30, 9:45, 11 a.m. Worship Services**
 9:45 a.m. Sunday School
 9:45 a.m. Confirmation Class
 9:45, 11 a.m. Adult Forums
 12:15 p.m. Faith Journey

Music Groups (Tuesdays)

5:15 Babies of St. Mark's
 5:15 Joyful Noise
 5:45 Jubilation Choir
 6:00 Worship Team
 6:30 Chimes
 7:10 St. Mark's Ringers
 8:00 Bells of St. Mark's

Wednesday Church Night-

5:45 p.m. Soup Supper
 6:15 p.m. Faith Journey/ NO Bible Study this week/ Children's Activities
 7:30 p.m. Ash Wednesday Services

St. Mark's Lutheran Church Staff Members—
 Pastor Jan Ruud
 Pastor Rebecca Shjerven
 Pastor Otto Tollefson, Visitation Pastor
 Mirjam Hofer, Intern
 Danielle Lemieux, Dir. of Music Ministry
 Ingelaurie Lisher, Dir. of Youth & Fam. Min.
 Jan Pence, Office Mgr./Admin. Assistant
 Janeen Smith, Coordinator of Ministry



Parish Life

St. Mark's Ministry Highlights

February 22, 2009

Lessons for March 2:

Genesis 9:8-17
 Psalm 25: 1-10
 1 Peter 3: 18-22
 Mark 1: 9-15

Welcome to St. Mark's — If you are a **guest**, please fill out a worship attendance slip with your name and address or other contact information (blue book in pew), and introduce yourself to us so that we may get to know you better! **Members**, please fill out a worship attendance slip (also!) and introduce yourselves to those around you!

GRACE UPON GRACE — “Linking Ministry with Facilities”



- **Thank you to all who have put up with changing space for activities each week as well as with dust and other construction zone issues!!!**
- The new fellowship/education space is growing around us! The windows and doors are being installed. The insulation and drywall are being installed in the lower level. The elevator shaft has had drywall installed.
- *Construction team meetings occur weekly — If you have **Questions, Comments or Concerns**, please call the church office (752-4966).*

Our Lenten journey begins with an Ash Wednesday service on Wednesday, February 25 at 7:30 p.m. This service will include the imposition of ashes.

Faith Journey groups for all those who worship with us as guests continue. Faith Journey is a pathway to spiritual growth and renewal patterned after Christ's way of welcoming people into community. It includes an open-ended time of inquiry where your stories and questions set the framework for discussion, followed by times of Bible reflection, renewal, and discernment that link visitors at St. Mark's with members of the congregation who also want to grow in faith and affirm their Christian calling. Overall, we spend about twelve weeks together. These groups are hosted by Pastor Ruud. Participants can choose to meet with a Wednesday group at 6:15 p.m. or with a Sunday group at 12:15 p.m. A simple meal is served at both gatherings. The Wednesday meal begins at 5:45 p.m. Childcare is always available in the nursery, and a special Faith Journey for Children is offered on Wednesday evenings as well.

Church Night has begun again. All are welcome to join us for a soup supper beginning at 5:45 p.m. followed by Bible Study or Faith Journey and then Evening Prayer service at 7:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. Faith Journey for Children and nursery care are available, also.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Adult Forum: “Ending Well”, 9:45 a.m. Fireside Rm. As part of our ongoing series, Everett Holum will share information on estate planning. Next week: a workshop on planning our funeral/memorial service (forms to assist with this planning will be handed out today). If you cannot attend class today, they are available on our Website: www.smlutheran.org.

“From Jesus to Christ” Bible Study, 11:00 a.m., Fireside Rm. Pastor Ruud will lead the last session of this historical Bible Study, taking a look at the unique perspective of each of the four canonical gospels. Next week: “Book of Faith Lenten Journey—Forty Days with the Lord’s Prayer.”

Tuesday 10 a.m. Bible Study—at Mortvedt Center, Tacoma Lutheran Community, on “Biblical Images of Light and Darkness.”

Fully Alive Bible Study — We are a group of women who meet Tuesdays from 5:30-6:30 p.m. in the Fireside Rm. Childcare is provided. Please join us.

There will be NO noon or 6:15 p.m. Bible Studies with Pastor Shjerven on **Ash Wednesday** (Feb. 25)

Wednesday, March 4th, Pastor Sherjen will begin two new series:

- **Noon Bible Study @ Forza** —“Faith’s Wisdom for Daily Life,” using a small book by Herbert Anderson and Bonnie McLemore.
- **6:15 p.m., Fireside Room — Book of Faith Lenten Journey** —“Forty Days with the Lord’s Prayer.”

Nursery care for infants to age 3 is available from 8:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. each Sun. and at various times throughout the week.

Mark your Calendars! Vacation Bible School is scheduled for August 3-7.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Parish Nurse office hours are:

- Wednesdays 4:00—7:30 p.m.
- Thursdays 9:00 a.m.—noon
- Sundays 9:30—11:00 a.m.

OUTREACH

ELCA Prayer Ventures & extra copies of The Viewpoint are available on the Information Table.

PEACE AND JUSTICE

Food Bank—suggested donations are tuna and/or other canned meat. Donations for March include toiletries (toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, soap, shampoo, razors, etc.) Please place in the basket near the front door of the church.

The Somali Tutoring Program continues. We but can use cookies and juice (*not red juice!*). Place in marked boxes near the church office.

Are you interested in joining our **Mexico Mission Team** this year? Once again, St. Mark’s will be going to Mexico to build four houses for needy families and to share God’s love with children in the neighborhoods where we build. The dates for this year’s trip are **June 19-27**. Interest Forms and information about this mission trip are available on the table in the narthex. All those who would like to join our team should complete a Form and return it TODAY.



WORSHIP AND MUSIC

Thank you to all the choirs offering special music today!

The Chancel Choir is now practicing on **Thursdays, 7:00—8:30 p.m.** Please join us. Please contact Sonja Yeager, 761-3018 for more information. Thank You!

YOUTH AND FAMILY

Kids’ Club (2-5th grade)—Tuesdays from 5:15-5:45 p.m. in the Conference Room.

SR ALYVE (grades 9-12) — Breakfast Club meets again **TODAY, Feb. 22** at 11:00 a.m. in the Conference Rm. Breakfast provided.

SR ALYVE (grades 9-12) Bible Study and Discussion Group! 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month (Feb. 25 next date) from 6:15-7:15 p.m. in the Youth Room. Contact Ingelaurie Lisher for more information.

JR ALYVE (grades 6-8th)— Tues. Night Youth Group: **March 3** from 5:45-7:00 p.m. in the Youth Rm. Theme: *Living Our Dreams!* Dinner provided.

JR ALYVE (grades 6-8th) Seattle Thunderbirds Hockey Game! Saturday, February 28! Please meet at St. Mark’s by 5:00 p.m. if you signed up to attend.

Rocky Boy Montana Mission Trip! Meeting, Tuesday, February 24, at 6:15 p.m. (NOTE TIME CHANGE) in the Youth Room. *Questions?* Contact Bruce Sadler (253-241-5878) or bcsadler@harbornet.com. Your \$50 deposits are due at this time to confirm your spot on the trip.

Middle School Youth Rally—Grades 6-8th March 6-8, at Black Lake Bible Camp. Cost: \$100 per person (scholarships available). Sign up by February 22nd if you would like to attend—money is due at that time. Parents/

adult leaders are needed for this event. Questions? Contact Ingelaurie Lisher at 752-4966 ext. 104 or ingelaurie@smlutheran.org.

ALSO:

The Concordia Choir (Moorhead MN) will be in Tacoma for a concert on Feb. 25 at 8:00 p.m. PLU, Lagerquist Hall. Call 1-800-838-3006 for tickets.

The 2009 Flower Chart is posted on the wall near the office. If you would like to donate flowers for Sunday services, please write your name, phone number and the occasion on the chart. Questions, please call the church office (752-4966).

The Youth & Family Ministry Team invites you to join us for more Parenting Conversations on Fridays: **February 27** and **March 20!** For those who read the book, Last Child in the Woods, by Richard Louv, we plan



to discuss this, but welcome all who can come anyway! Please email rsvp’s to Jan Pence (janpence@smlutheran.org) for a head count for pizza and childcare if possible. We’ll meet in the Fireside Room from 6-8 p.m., with childcare provided. Questions? Contact Christine Harris, christine@raincity.com.

The Tacoma Lutheran Retirement Community is hosting their Annual Dinner and Board Election on Sunday, March 15 at 6:30 p.m. St. Mark’s Lutheran Church is invited to bring six guests. If you are interested in attending, please call the church office