

# American Lutheran Church

February, 2017

## From Your Pastor

Dear Friends in Christ,

For the past several years, I've taken some time for continuing education with three reading days in early January after the rush of the holidays. Thanks to Pam Lowe and Bob McCleave for a place on the Yellowstone River that is very peaceful, reflective, and perfect for such an occasion—just the dog and me. One of the books that I've been reading that has given me great insight is Arland Jacobson and Roy Oswald's, *The Emotional Intelligence of Jesus*. Pastor Oswald is an ordained Lutheran pastor who has made a career out of writing and teaching continuing education courses for mainline Protestant clergy. Our staff has studied with Pastor Oswald on a couple of different occasions.



Many of us are familiar with the term IQ, the measure of someone's intellectual or academic intelligence. The reading I have been doing suggests that emotional intelligence may be even more important to human flourishing, and especially faith communities.

Emotional intelligence is defined as *perceiving, controlling, and evaluating emotions to better connect with others*. The authors identify five key principles of emotional intelligence: *self-awareness, empathy, assertiveness, optimism, and stress resilience*.

Beginning on February 19, I will be leading a series of forums on the emotional intelligence. An adult forum will be dedicated to each of these five principles. We will also dedicate two forums to

*loving one's enemies and forgiveness*, two of the most challenging concepts that Jesus emphasizes. The forums will involve Bible study as we look at stories from Jesus' life that illustrates how he was emotionally intelligent.

Join us as we read Scripture together, enter into the stories of Jesus, and learn more about how it was that this carpenter from Nazareth interacted with people and is still so influential in today's world.

Blessings,

*Pastor Tim*

## SOUPER BOWL 14 is coming your way!

Angela's Piazza: Women's Drop-In Center is getting ready for the 14th annual Souper Bowl Fundraiser, set for Friday, February 3rd. Lunch time is 11:00am-1:30pm, and dinner time is 4:00-6:30pm. This event will take place at American Lutheran Church, 5 Lewis Avenue. For \$30 you can sit and enjoy some hot, tasty soup & bread made by local restaurants, and pick out a unique piece of locally crafted pottery to take home. Bring your friends, family, & coworkers and enjoy your meal in a relaxed, welcoming environment. All proceeds support ongoing programs at Angela's Piazza.

## Mom's Night Out

Tuesday, February 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. We'll meet at The Montana Club. All moms are welcome to join us for yummy snacks and fun conversation!

## Pick Your Team

It's that time of year again.... SOUPER BOWL OF CARING! Please come to church on Sunday, February 5<sup>th</sup>, and help our youth raise money for the local high

school food pantries. The food pantries serve as an important support system for homeless youth in Billings, and are run solely on the money and goods that they receive through donations. Show support for your 'Souper' Bowl team by placing your donation in their soup pot, and if you don't have a team, show your support for the commercials! We'll have a soup



pot for them as well. The ALC youth truly appreciate your help with this worthy cause! Please feel free to send any questions to [rochelle@amluth.org](mailto:rochelle@amluth.org).

## Chocolate Lovers Lunch

**Sunday, February 12<sup>th</sup> at noon**

- Three soups & 12 chocolate desserts!
- Sign up at the reception desk to bring a dessert.
- Also, sign up to help in the kitchen.
- All are welcome!
- Free will donations to cover costs.

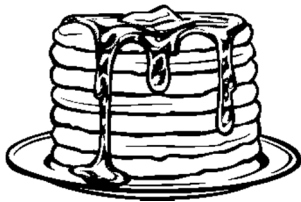


## Share the Love...

Looking for someone who'd like to put together Valentine-themed table decorations for our Chocolate Lovers' Lunch on Sunday, February 12th. Contact Kristin ([Kristin.rapacz@yahoo.com](mailto:Kristin.rapacz@yahoo.com)) if you're interested.

## Boy Scout Pancake Breakfast

All morning on Sunday, February 19<sup>th</sup>



Come and support Boy Scout Troop 10 as they raise funds for troop activities with their annual pancake breakfast.

## There is no longer Jew nor Greek... (Date Change!)

Conversations about race relations are front page news these days. Join Pastor Elizabeth for two (or more) week study on talking about race in today's culture. We'll meet Mondays February 20<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> at noon in the Shepherd Lounge. Please e-

mail [pastorelizab@amluth.org](mailto:pastorelizab@amluth.org) to express interest and with any questions you might like covered.

## Youth Schedule

Below is our Sunday school and Wednesday night schedule for February. Please feel free to email any questions to [rochelle@amluth.org](mailto:rochelle@amluth.org).

February 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, and 22<sup>nd</sup>

Kid's Club, 5:00 – 6:00; Meal, 6:00 – 7:00;

Confirmation, 7:00 – 8:00; Youth Group, 7:00 – 8:30

February 5<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, and 26<sup>th</sup>

Sunday school, 9:45 – 10:45 (Opening in Chapel)

\*\*Join us on February 26<sup>th</sup> for another session of

'Family Sunday School'. We will meet in the chapel for opening, then head downstairs for discussion and activities that focus on the upcoming season of Lent.\*\*

February 13<sup>th</sup>

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL – SCHOOL DISTRICT 2 BREAK

## Adult Forums

**February 5<sup>th</sup>**

**Sue Runkle, Homeless Education Liaison for Billings**

**School District 2**, will be with us to

speaking about the homeless population

in the Billings schools. This will be the

first of two Sundays dedicated to

issues of homelessness. It is also the Sunday of our

**Souper Bowl of Caring**, the proceeds of which will be

given to the high school food pantries. Sue works

with this ministry as the food pantries serve as an

important support system for the homeless youth in Billings.

**February 12<sup>th</sup>**

**Carmen Gonzalez, Team Lead for the Hub Drop-in**

**Center**, will lead the second of two Sundays on

homelessness by talking about the homeless adult

population. What is the best way to help the

homeless? How do we respond to those requests for

spare change or meals or lodging? As well as

working at The Hub, Carmen works with a program

that goes out under bridges, along the rims, and

other places where the homeless population gathers.

**February 19<sup>th</sup>**



*Emotional Intelligence of Jesus*: for more information see the Pastor's letter. Self-Awareness.

## **February 26<sup>th</sup>**

*Emotional Intelligence of Jesus*: Empathy

## **Newcomers' Class...**



A two-part newcomers' class will be offered February 19 and 26 for anyone wanting to learn more about American Lutheran Church. These informal

gatherings are held in the shepherd Lounge (at the end of the office hallway) from 9:45-10:45 a.m. These classes are a great way to meet the staff and other new members, find out more about the programs of ALC, and brush up on what it means to Lutheran. No need to pre-register- just join us!! We welcome you! Childcare is provided in the church nursery.

## **Let's Have Brunch!...**



We will celebrate our most recent group of new member on Sunday, March 5th with a reception and potluck brunch at 9:30. Please bring brunch items to share: baked egg dishes, fruit, and/or baked goods.

Leave your items in the church kitchen before 8:30 that morning. We welcome helpers in the kitchen that morning. If you'd like to lend a hand, please sign up at the reception desk.

## **All Daughter Luncheon Task Force...**

Would you like to help make plans for ALC's annual All Daughter Luncheon which will be held on Saturday, April 29th? I am looking for people to help with the theme, decorations and other details for the event. Please sign up at the reception desk, or touch base with me (Kristin.rapacz@yahoo.com). Let's do it up right for the ladies of our congregation!

## **Ash Wednesday**

**March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017**

Services at **noon** and **7:00 p.m.** will both include **Holy Communion** and the **Imposition of Ashes**. Please



note that there is no soup lunch or supper served on Ash Wednesday.

## **Lenten Services:**

Lenten services will be held on Wednesdays, **March 8<sup>th</sup>** through **April 5<sup>th</sup>**. The first service will be at **noon**, followed by a **soup lunch**. **Soup supper** will begin at **6:00 p.m.** and be followed by our **evening service at 6:30 p.m.**



**Lenten Wednesdays:** Schedule will be as follows:

12:00 p.m.:	Lenten Service
12:30 p.m.:	Soup Lunch
5:00-6:00 p.m.:	Kids' Club and Children's Choirs
5:30 p.m.:	Praise Team
6:00 p.m.:	Soup Supper
6:30 p.m.:	Lenten Service
7:00 p.m.:	Confirmation, Youth Group, and Chancel Choir

## **Holy Week Schedule:**



### **April 9<sup>th</sup> Palm/Passion Sunday:**

8:30 and 11:00 a.m. worship, including dramatic reading of the passion drama.

Palm Sunday Breakfast served by the youth group from 8:00—11:00 a.m. Please note this change from our traditional breakfast. It will allow our youth group, their families, and our kitchen staff to spend Easter with family.

### **April 13<sup>th</sup> Maundy Thursday:**

7:00 service includes Foot washing and Holy Communion.

### **April 14<sup>th</sup> Good Friday:**

Noon and 7:00 Tenebrae worship (service of shadows).

## April 16<sup>th</sup> Easter Sunday Celebratory Worship:

8:30 and 11:00 a.m. worship with Holy Communion.

## Altar Guild Meeting

Saturday, February 18 at 10:00 am. All altar guild members are invited to this meeting in which we will discuss altar guild process and procedures and any questions or concerns people might have. Coffee and goodies will be served.

**Congratulations to Peter Christ**, friend of our congregation (and son-in-law of Bruce & Terry Steel), on his call to pastoral ministry at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Roseville, Minnesota! His service or ordination will be held on Saturday, February 11th at St. Stephen Lutheran Church in Bloomington, MN. Blessings to Peter as he begins another chapter in ministry!

## Christikon Clips

**February, 2017**

*Information for our  
Congregations*

### Christikon Youth Camp

**Brochures** have been mailed to every young person in your congregation who are in grades 4-12. The brochures detail some very special possibilities, and some very special deals for registering early for camp, and for bringing a friend to camp as a new camper. Save by registering before March 15. Additional brochures are available from your church office.

**Do it online!** You can use the Internet to register for all camp sessions at Christikon, or to make a gift, or to find out more about this special ministry. Go to [www.christikon.org](http://www.christikon.org).

**Save the dates: The annual Christikon Benefit Auction at the Billings Depot** is coming on Sunday, April 30.

Too few young people (not to mention adults) have significant outdoor experience. Christikon combines spirited outdoor experience with focused community experience, helping to open people to the deeper realities of the life of faith. Think about joining the



Christikon life this coming summer. It can do a world of good...

**It is the mission of Christikon to awaken and nurture faith in Christ— exploring God's creation and the adventure of life together.**

**CHRISTIKON** • 1108 24<sup>th</sup> Street West • Billings, MT 59102  
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[director@christikon.org](mailto:director@christikon.org) • [www.christikon.org](http://www.christikon.org)

## January Pastoral Acts

### Funerals:

Arlene Anthony- 12/26/16

Frankie Yerger- 1/8/17

Victoria Norskog- 12/31/16

### Baptisms:

Arlo Jane Huseh- 1/15/17

Olivia Grace Blumenshine- 1/15/17

## Lenten Word Search

M E R C I F U L P S X R X  
C L O T H I N G A L L E Y  
S T E A D F A S T O O L E  
P T H N A P H F M W R E V  
L A E O N U Y A O L D N E  
W B A T G N E S U O F T N  
E O R W E I T T R V O S N  
E U T I R S H I N E R R T  
P N S T F H E N I J O E L  
I D A H R I D G N J A N D  
N I Y O O N O W G O D D M  
G N S T M G R A C I O U S  
M G R E T U R N Y O U R R

### Word List:

STEADFAST; PUNISHING; ABOUNDING; MOURNING;  
MERCIFUL; GRACIOUS; CLOTHING; WEEPING;  
RELENTS; FASTING; RETURN; HEARTS; ANGER; YOUR;  
WITH; SLOW; SAYS; REND; LOVE; LORD; JOEL; FROM;  
EVEN; YET; THE; NOW; NOT; GOD; FOR; AND; ALL