

MARCH, 2025



THE VOICE

Of Pentecost Lutheran Church

www.pentecost-racine.org

As forgiven children of God, we, the Pentecost Family of Faith, are committed to show everyone Life in Christ.

On March 5th, we will observe Ash Wednesday, which is the first day of Lent. Lent is a church season that lasts for 40 days and focuses on repentance. It ends with the suffering, death, and resurrection of Christ. There are many traditions practiced throughout this season. We've all known people that have given up a favorite pastime, donated money or time, or even fasted. All these traditions are meant to help us reflect on our sins that sent Jesus to the cross.

You may notice the theme of the number 40. It might make you think of Noah and his family in the rain, or the Israelites wandering, or Jesus fasting and being tempted in the desert. We continue the theme of 40 in the number of days during Lent as we remember the cross and our sin that our savior bore. It is a somber time in the church. We even bury the Alleluias.

While we do these traditions throughout these 40 days, it can be easy to make it about us. We want to prove to God and to others just how sorry we are for our sin. But we need to remember what repentance actually means and who is doing the verbs. Repentance is a gift given by the Holy Spirit. It is God restoring us. He is bringing us home. He is bringing us back to Himself. It is God doing the verbs. It is His grace, His Spirit's work within us. So although Lent is a somber season in the church, it is also a joyful one. God restores us. He holds to His promises. And we will see on that Easter morning Jesus fulfilling the promise made in Genesis 3:15, "I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel."

This Lenten season, may our faith hold fast to the Word and promise of God. May we remember that we are free to practice the different traditions knowing that our salvation is not dependent on our works. And may remember to fix our eyes on Christ, the cross, and the good gifts given to us by the blood of Jesus.

Marissa Retzlaff



Valerie Foss – 03/02	Ian McGregor – 03/16
Loree Andes – 03/03	Auburn Andes – 03/17
Dawn Friend – 03/05	Tiffany Baker – 03/17
Debbie Mrock – 03/07	Kathy Foss – 03/18
Andee Koll – 03/10	Susan Vogt – 03/18
Laura Sadowski – 03/11	Kay Romahn – 03/19
Ethan McCray – 03/12	Scot Sinclair – 03/19
Diane Rognsvoog – 03/13	Mike Madsen – 03/27
Liam Nelson – 03/14	Diane Larsen – 03/28
Isabelle Luxem – 03/15	Ella Nelson – 03/29
Isabella Lisowski – 03/16	Grace Hansen – 03/31

Jonathan & Teri Lisowski – 26 years – March 20th

thrivent[®] CHOICE DOLLARS -

Eligible Thrivent clients with membership can recommend where Thrivent distributes some of its charitable outreach funds by directing Choice Dollars. Please consider directing your Choice Dollars to Pentecost Lutheran Church. To learn more visit thrivent.com/thriventchoice or call 1-800-847-4836. Deadline is March 31, 2025.



Hospitality Center Collection -March 2025
In March we are collecting laundry soap for the Hospitality Center. Thank you for your ongoing prayers and support of this mission! - M&E Team

Thank you so much for praying for this ministry and giving whenever and whatever you are able. Your generous donations are greatly appreciated!



Join us every Wednesday through Lent starting Ash Wednesday at 6:00pm in the Fellowship Hall for a meal before the service at 7pm.

Ash Wednesday – Soup Supper
 March 12th – Potluck (everyone bring a dish to pass)
 March 19th – Hosted by the Elder
 March 26th – Hosted by the Youth Group
 April 3rd – Potluck
 April 9th – Hosted by The Pentecost Pythons

LCMS Youth Gathering Update

Thank you to everyone who has supported our youth group bake sales, bunco night, mostaccioli dinner, chili dinner, midweek service meals, and “Love our Youth” envelopes, etc. as we prepare for the LCMS Youth Gathering in July 2025. Through a combination of family commitments and fundraisers, we have been able to pay our registration costs and flights and have made significant progress on our hotel costs. Please keep our 9 youth and 4 adult chaperones in your prayers as we continue down the home stretch toward this amazing event!



Stewardship Corner

Coming Together – February 23, 2025

How good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in Unity! Psalm 133:1



It was a Great Day! Pastor Brady chose the theme – *Unity*. Evan and Joyce (with help from Tom) chose hymns that would feature that theme and the music styles of both congregations, using the keyboard, organ and many instruments. Members of both congregations joined together to form a choir. Tom set up the Facebook video so those not able to attend could watch. Katy planned the refreshments. Tim decided we now needed a new congregation photo. And that was just some things for the service. It also doesn't include the **many** hours church officers from both congregations put in figuring out all the details of our *coming together* as one congregation. And now we are one! Check the Stewardship bulletin board for more pictures of the day.



Remember our Community Care Box – Donations can be left in the blue container by the table in the narthex. If you have any questions about the box, check with Mike Mueller who keeps it filled. It has had a lot of visitors this winter.