



**ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE – Imposition of Ashes (February 22<sup>nd</sup> @ 7 pm in the Family Center)**

**WEDNESDAY EVENINGS IN LENT (February 29th – March 28th)**

6:15 – 7:00pm

Soup Supper in the Family Center

7:00 – 7:30pm

Worship – Holden Evening Prayer

7:30 – 8:30pm

Education in the Sanctuary (Pastor Daren will lead)

**GIVING FOR OTHERS**

**February Giving Tree for TACO:** Items requested are packages of mens' crew sox, disposable razors, travel size toiletries, warm shirts (flannel are great), sweaters, sweatshirts (hooded, if possible), warm jackets, scarves, gloves, blankets, sleeping bags and monetary donations. Anything warm will be much appreciated these cold months! Suggested items are written on Valentines hanging on the Giving Tree. Please take a Valentine and bring back items to donate to the TACO box under the table. Thank you!

**TACO date change for February:** Please note that we will be helping to serve **February 13<sup>th</sup>** instead of our usual 3rd Monday of the month. We'll meet at First Lutheran Church (downtown at 3rd and Ash) at 3:30PM. No cooking involved -- all that's needed is a friendly face and willing hands. Questions or need a ride? Call Lori Cook: Home: 760 918-2401; Cell: 760 207-0432. Please let me know if you plan to come. We welcome any and all new faces! "As you did it to one of the least of these, you did it to me." Matthew 25:40

**INTERFAITH SHELTER BEGINS February 26<sup>th</sup>:** BLC will host homeless families trying to get back on their feet in the Multi-use Room. We need Hygiene Kits, Meal Providers, Overnight Hosts and Laundry. To help or for more information go to [SIGNUPGENIUS.COM](http://SIGNUPGENIUS.COM) and enter [ontiveros4@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ontiveros4@sbcglobal.net) on the "Find A Sign Up" tab at the top of the page. Or contact Mike Ontiveros at [ontiveros4@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ontiveros4@sbcglobal.net) or Jean Keller at [jakeller@roadrunner.com](mailto:jakeller@roadrunner.com)

**Meals with Love:** If anyone you know is in need of a hot meal please contact Rose Moldenhauer [rosemoldy@cox.net](mailto:rosemoldy@cox.net). We have a team of volunteer cooks who are ready and willing.

**If you are having financial difficulties,** we have resources available for you. Please contact Rose at [rosemoldy@cox.net](mailto:rosemoldy@cox.net)

**NEWS AND NOTES**

**Giants of Faith—A Lenten evening class led by Pastor Daren (Feb. 29 – Mar. 28).** Who are the people that have shaped your faith? Many you can name right away—a relative, a friend, a pastor. Yet, there are those people of faith who you may know little about who shape the way you think and feel about God. Wednesday evenings in Lent from 7:30 pm to 8:30 pm after Soup Supper and Lenten Worship (Feb. 29 – Mar. 28), Pastor Daren will lead us into the lives, thought world and faith of such people who are truly “Giants of Faith.” Not only will you learn what they accomplished, but gain insight into their own struggles and joys as they wrestled with their faith in God and how to live that out in the world. Please come!

**Pastor Daren** is seeking 5-10 folks to join him for an **inter-religious conversation sponsored by the Interreligious Council of San Diego** on Sunday, Feb. 12 from 4-6 pm. It takes place at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (4195 Camino del Rio South, San Diego) and a vegetarian supper is provided. If you are interested in participating, please email Pastor Daren at [reverisman@sbcglobal.net](mailto:reverisman@sbcglobal.net) and we will arrange carpooling, etc.

**Thrivent Financial for Lutherans** will be hosting a **Retirement and Estate Strategies Workshop** at various locations on Feb. 15 & 16. To reserve a seat or for more information contact Whitney Claborn at 858-455-5227, ext. 218 or [whitney.claborn@thrivent.com](mailto:whitney.claborn@thrivent.com).

## **THE FIRST READING: Isaiah 40: 21 – 31**

<sup>21</sup>Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?<sup>22</sup>It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to live in;<sup>23</sup>who brings princes to naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.<sup>24</sup>Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble.<sup>25</sup>To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One.<sup>26</sup>Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these? He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing.

<sup>27</sup>Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, “My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God”?<sup>28</sup>Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable.<sup>29</sup>He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless.<sup>30</sup>Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted;<sup>31</sup>but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

## **THE SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 9: 16-23**

<sup>16</sup>If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel!<sup>17</sup>For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission.<sup>18</sup>What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

<sup>19</sup>For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them.<sup>20</sup>To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law.<sup>21</sup>To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law.<sup>22</sup>To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some.<sup>23</sup>I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

## **GOSPEL: Mark 1: 29-39**

<sup>29</sup>As soon as [Jesus and his disciples] left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John.<sup>30</sup>Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once.<sup>31</sup>He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

<sup>32</sup>That evening, at sundown, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons.<sup>33</sup>And the whole city was gathered around the door.<sup>34</sup>And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.<sup>35</sup>In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed.<sup>36</sup>And Simon and his companions hunted for him.<sup>37</sup>When they found him, they said to him, “Everyone is searching for you.”<sup>38</sup>He answered, “Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do.”<sup>39</sup>And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.