



ALMA LUTHERAN CHURCH

NEWSLETTER

March 2021

Do we dare say anything? I don't know about you, but sometimes I can be superstitious. I get a level of uneasiness when a mirror breaks, a black cat jumps out in front of me while driving, or even jinxing myself and others! It is March. One whole year from when all of this began. Do you see my dilemma? If I speak to it, will I jinx anything! Vaccines have been coming, slowly but surely. We have continued to care for those who are most vulnerable in our communities. We might be able to begin to see the light at the end of the tunnel. I was struck by the Gospel reading for our 3rd Sunday in Lent. We make a divergence from Mark's gospel to John's. John places this text of Jesus cleansing the temple at the beginning of Jesus' ministry instead of right before the passion, like the synoptics. So what does that mean for us? What can we glean from this in our Lenten practices and disciplines? Well the story focuses on the temple, both the physical temple as well as Jesus' own body. The temple was not only a place of worship, but it was thought to also house the Holy of Holies. It was in this room where the Ark of the Covenant was placed in the temple that Solomon built. It was the sacred place where God's presence was kept. Jesus in his upheaval of the temple and its activities offers us a different understanding of God's presence. Jesus in his own way lets us know that God has left the building. That in flesh, in a fully human body God dwells. In our human bodies God dwells. Yes, this past year has been anything but normal. However, God has never ceased being with us, dwelling in us. So, I leave you with these questions. Where have you encountered God this past year? Were they in places that you expected? How have you revealed God to your neighbor?

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Quinlan

ACTIVITIES

Chat & Sew – Meets the 1st Tuesday at 8:30am. Contact Sharon Hollst or Lana Krumpus for more information.

Book Club – Location and date varies. Contact Viki Miller for more information.

Children's Sunday School - 9:30am every Sunday except the 1st Sunday of the month. Ages 3 years old through 8th grade. Meets in the basement of the church. Contact Moriah Wellman for more information.

Backpack Ministry Pie Fundraiser

The Backpack Ministry is serving the largest amount of kids this year than ever before. We are selling Village Pie Maker frozen pies just in time for your Easter lunch. You can find an order form by contacting Kristen Nygren or emailing almaalutheran@gmail.com. There will also be a special offering collection on Maundy Thursday. Thank you for your continued support!

Important Upcoming Dates -

Midweek Lenten Service - Holden Evening Prayer

March 10th at 6:30pm

March 17th at 6:30pm

March 24th at 6:30pm

Maundy Thursday Service: April 1st at 7:30pm.

Good Friday Service: April 2nd at 7:30pm.

Changes to Worship

As you can see, we have begun to move back inside for our regular Sunday Services. Some changes have been made to service for your and our communities safety. The first is that masks will be required. If you do not have a mask, a disposable mask will be provided upon entrance to the church. Secondly, we will be sitting every other pew when in our sanctuary, or spaced out at a minimum 6ft when in other places of our facility. Lastly, there will be minimal singing during service. This is to continue with a service that is meaningful and familiar, while recognizing that we are still in the midst of a global pandemic. As always, if you are experiencing a fever or any flu like symptoms we are asking that you stay home and join us for worship via our facebook live.



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BUDGET

As of 3/2/21

Income: \$10,062.00

Expenses: \$12,307.50

Balance: -\$2,245.50

World Hunger YTD: \$18.29

INFORMATION

Pastor's Email

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Facebook - Search for "Alma Lutheran Church" and "Alma Lutheran Educational Ministries"

MISSION STATEMENT

Disciples by grace, Growing in faith, Living our hope, Sharing God's love.