

March 2015



**March
Worship Services**
8:30 & 10:45 am

March 1st
9:30 Combined
Service & Brunch

Weekly Meditations
Genesis 17; Psalm 22
Romans 4:13-25
Mark 8:31-38
Communion

March 8th

Girl Scout Sunday

Weekly Meditations
Exodus 20; Psalm 19
1 Corinthians 1:18-25
John 2:13-22

March 15th

Weekly Meditations
Numbers 21:4-9; Psalm 107
Ephesians 2:1-10
John 3:14-21

Tiffany Cheehy's Baptism
Coffee Fellowship
after 10:45 Service

March 22nd

Weekly Meditations
Jeremiah 31:31-34
Psalm 51
Hebrews 5:5-10
John 12:20-33

Chapel Choir Concert
5:00 pm

March 29th

Palm Sunday

Weekly Meditations
Mark 11:1-11
Psalm 118; Psalm 31
Isaiah 50; Philippians 2:5-11
Mark 14:1-15

Last Supper Drama
7:30 pm

The Lemont United Methodist

The New Wine

FROM THE PASTOR'S HEART

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The most humbling seasons of the Christian year is Lent. On Ash Wednesday, we, as Christians reminded ourselves of our mortality and need for God's grace. As ashes are imposed, we remembered that God made us from the dust of the earth. One day all of us will return to the ground from which we were made. As we reflect on the mark of the cross, we remember our broken promises, unfulfilled commitments, damaging actions, and hurtful words. We acknowledge that we, as people whose sins Jesus suffered and died on the cross, are in need of God's grace and healing.

Family and friends, it is vital for us to embrace this solemn start to the Lenten Season because the rest of Lent can become a renewed commitment to discipleship. Once we establish our common starting ground as people in need of God's grace, we can embrace our journey of renewal filled with hope that Christ invites all people to follow him and grow in his likeness.

Lent is a time for us to take inventory of our lives, relate more intimately with God, and clear out those things that may distract us from our commitment to God. We must acknowledge things in our lives that have taken the place of God and prevent us from finding him. Maybe it's a schedule so full that there's no time for prayer and Scriptures. Or a heart full of resentment or preoccupied with material thing that there's no grace or space to connect with people. Or an addiction that has stopped us from being the parent, spouse, or child that our family needs and deserves. Lent is a time to clean out the debris in our lives and make room for new growth.

During Lent, the Church calls us to cast off the sins that hinder us from fully following Jesus. This is a time when we reaffirm our baptismal vows and "*run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the author and perfecter of our faith*" (Hebrew 1:1-2) Lent is an opportunity for us to renewed Christian disciplines like prayer, fasting, reading Scripture and service.

As we prepare for spiritual growth, I encourage you and your family to join Sunday school, listen to Christian Music, and plan your activities around God rather than in place of God. If you cannot, I challenge you to faithfully attend Sunday worship services. You may even consider inviting a friend and/or family to worship with you for the next 40 days. Whatever you are able to do, let's strive to love God more deeply, serve God more passionately, and seek God more regularly.

Joyfully Your Pastor,
Kelly T. Van

Celebrations in March

Happy Birthday:

March 1st—Anthony Havemann

March 9th—Ryan Peraino

March 12th—Julie Rainaldi

March 16th—Rybecca Janovyak



Anniversary:

March 11th—Teague & Kathy Cliff

Pizza Sale

Thank you to Gene and Julie Phillips who measured and bagged the ingredients; Pastor Kelly, Gene and Julie Phillips, and Dawn and Tony Ferrazzi, who made and/or delivered the pizzas.

We had two pizza tastings. One was held after the 10:45 service on January 18, and the following Sunday after the 8:30 service. We sold almost 40 pizzas with individual cheese, sausage, pepperoni, mushroom, and combinations of these ingredients. Thank you to all our members who purchased our homemade pizzas. The pizzas were delivered on Super Bowl Sunday, so mark the date for next year. Our profit was placed in the General Fund.

Staff/Parish Relations Committee is pleased to announce the hire of Amy Cheehy to work in the office. She will be there from 9:15 am - 12:45 pm every Wednesday and starting March 17th she will be there all three days (Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday) from 9:00 am – 2:00 pm. We interviewed three strong candidates and chose Amy due to her computer skills, previous experiences with office work and our Food Pantry. Please be sure to welcome her. She will be glad to assist you in any way.

Helpful Hints for Winter

1. Keep your headlights clear with car wax. Just wipe ordinary car wax on your headlights. It contains special water repellents that will prevent that messy salt mixture from accumulating on your lights and lasts six weeks.
2. Squeak-proof your wipers with rubbing alcohol or ammonia. This one trick can make squeaking and streaking wipers change to near perfect silence and clarity.
3. Ice-proof your windows with vinegar. Just fill a spray bottle with three parts vinegar to one part water & spritz it on all your windows at night. In the morning they'll be clear of ice. Vinegar contains acetic acid, which raises the melting point of water, preventing water from freezing.
4. Prevent car doors from freezing shut with Vaseline. Use a paper towel to rub it in on the rubber seals around car doors. This will prevent water from melting into the rubber.
5. Fog-proof your windshield with shaving cream. Spray shaving cream on the inside of your windshield and wipe it off with paper towels. Shaving cream has many of the same ingredients found in commercial defoggers.
6. De-ice your car door locks in seconds with hand sanitizer. Just put some hand sanitizer gel on the key and the lock, insert the key and the potential problem is solved.

Books Available in the Library By Kay Norfleet

Love in Action Thank You's

*Happy Hands
Fashion Show
Thank you to
Julie Phillips,
the teachers,
families and
students who
make this a
wonderful
annual event.

**Community Showcase and Expo

Thank you to
Pastor Kelly,
Julie Phillips,
Cris Kerins and
Karin Peraino
for showcasing
our church and
all of our
Ministries.

"Answers to Your Kids' Questions" by Chuck Colson. Charles Colson's conversion to Christ after he was convicted in the Richard Nixon scandal was nothing short of amazing-but that's how God operates.

He compiled this book as a answer to the many questions he received from parents who knew of his conversion and thus his evangelizing work with kids of prisoners. The book supplies the answers to many questions that any teen has asked. Hopefully, you'll find them helpful. Such questions as "how do you know there is a God?"

We have creation which cannot be explained any other way- you must acknowledge an intelligent Creator-God. Also, each of us has a conscience. You are aware in your conscience of God, you may choose for to accept His presence or not. And since each of us is made in the image of God made in the image of God.-we can reason, we have free choice, we are creative,, for these reasons we can sense there is a God.

The Bible testifies to a God. (The Bible is supported by historical evidence((although it really doesn't need the historical evidence.))There are questions concerning the Bible's accuracy, sure, however those questions can be answered by revelations (such as the Dead Sea Scrolls that God just keeps on showing us.)Read pages 38 and 39 which explain why life doesn't occur by chance.

The Bible is reliable.

Tolerance-the subject on the minds of many. It is the partial answer to "why is there evil." If our thoughts and actions are evaluated by the principles of Christ, true Tolerance is achieved. Hate,fear, killing, greed, cheating, bullying etc. do not reflect the principles of Christ. Remember -God gave us "free will." We can steal, hate

someone of another color, yell at someone we consider inferior-yet those expressions are not Christ-like. Those who choose to think their way is superior, do not have the right to take another's life, dignity, way of life, etc.

We must look to the Bible always to be able to evaluate the Christ principles and act on them. What did Christ favor or not?

Tolerance is the subject of the next book. "Freedom's Children" is a reminder to us that some were not considered free until they rose up and declared that they had the right to be considered equal citizens. Please read their stories. Then decide why we must include them in our tolerance.

Janet Oke's book "Like Gold Refined" is the fourth book of the Prairie Legacy Series. Janet is a favorite Christian author who often gets inside the minds of those Christians who have gone before us to open up this beautiful land. Yes, God gave us this land to take care of, and He was present in the lives of those who worked it for God.

Unfortunately we have not always appreciated the land or treated each other with the love and respect that we should have.

"All the Prayers of the Bible" is a reference book that not only gives the prayer, but explains the prayers.

"The Great Promise" is a little storybook for children that tells of the old man, Abraham, who listened to the lord. (Besides being a Biblical teaching opportunity, I like the fact that even tho Abraham was an OLD man, he was used by God-and he was to be the father of many nations.)

A Request from the Board of Trustees

We are asking all of our Committee and Ministry chairs and members to do the following:

Over the next few months go through the items that are currently stored within our facility to take an informal inventory of what you have. If these items have not been utilized within the past few years, please find another home for them. If you have items that the committee is saving because "maybe we could use this someday" or "maybe another group could use this," please find another home for those items.

In early April, the trustees will be doing a walk through of our storage areas to assess current utilization. Our intent is to reduce the "clutter" that has accumulated and to increase accessibility and provide safety.

March 2015 Rainbow Covenant

In addition to our annual apportionment, LUMC makes monetary donations through the Rainbow Covenant in order to provide support to specific causes. All loose change collected on the fourth Sunday of each month goes to support the Rainbow Covenant. In addition, each month we will highlight a charity from one of the bands of the Rainbow Covenant. For March, we are highlighting the **burgundy band charity, Grace Children's Hospital and Pediatric Clinic, Haiti.**

Grace Children's Hospital in Port-au-Prince provides care for children and families with tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS, respiratory infections and those impacted by the earthquake. In this area where many live on less than \$1/day, the hospital provides much needed immediate-care and follow-up clinical care for children and their families. Your gifts help support this important ministry. So please bring in plenty of change on **March 22nd** (Loose Change Sunday) to contribute to the Rainbow Covenant. If you would like to make a larger offering to this specific charity, write "Grace Hospital" on a pew envelope. Thank you for your support of the special ministries in the Rainbow Covenant.

Time goes by and slips away
Just as the sky turns from blue to grey.
We are here but only for a short stay.
Don't let life pass with words you never say.

Don't live in anger, with fear and regrets,
Seek forgiveness and lay your pain to rest.
Don't judge too quickly, as you may be wrong
Instead, choose to live life as an uplifting song.

When tears fall, wipe them away
As they will only last but for a day.
Sometimes we hurt because we care,
Sometimes life seems unfair.

We make mistakes we wish we could change
And wonder how our life could be rearranged.
Second chances last only for so long, reach out to
Others as we all are sisters and brothers.

There are angels in heaven that watch us every day,
They look over us as we laugh and play.
Live with joy and when you lay down at night
Thank the Lord and release any strife.

Worship Committee News

The Worship committee has been brainstorming ways to make our church welcoming to all. One way was to create a coffee nook available to all, complete with K-cups and chairs. Though the table we purchased is on backorder, we did not want to wait. Please feel free to make yourself a cup of coffee. There are hot cups with lids provided to minimize spills. Gallons of water to refill the reservoir are stored in the basket below. You can use the K-cups provided or bring your own. We do have a donation vessel. Any donations will be used to replenish our supplies. Please enjoy.

Mr. Electric

Mr. Electric is now hiring Service Electricians—must know electrical codes.

Mr. Electric is a world renowned company that offers steady long term employment with benefits.

If interested please contact Richard Meade at n5391p@yahoo.com or 630-975-6910.

You're Invited

Place: The Lemont United Methodist Church
Date: March 29, 2015
Time: 7:30 pm
Occasion: The Last Supper Tableau, a play entitled "Lord, Is It I?"
by Frederick S. Thompson
Special: A still life of Leonardo da Vinci painting of the Last Supper event

This is our 31st enactment of what might have been and how it came to be on this night of nights. Twelve disciples wondering and speaking of their life before and after they met and followed Jesus. Then Jesus's accusation to the disciples.

The da Vinci portrait of The Last Supper is slowly brought to life before your eyes. It is a stunning moment and sometimes gasps are heard. There are musical interludes that set up the crisis that is in the room.

After the program there will be a free-will offering to benefit the church's Open Pantry program.

We do hope you will come!

Arlene Knott, Director

Liturgist Schedule

March 1st

9:30— Youth

March 8th

8:30— JanaStelter

10:45—Julie Phillips

March 15th

8:30— Bill Stelter

10:45—Dave Kennedy

March 22nd

8:30—

10:45—Glee Ann Kehr

March 29th

8:30—

10:45—Steve Walter

Greatest Persecutions

By Richard H. Lee

January 26, marked the 70th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz prison camps in Europe. The news said that 1.1 million Jews were murdered and that was one of the greatest genocides in history. I went to look up genocides on the Internet to see what they would say were the greatest or largest attempts to destroy people who wanted to be independent.

I was surprised at the numbers of what they said were the top 10, starting with Mao's revolution in China with 34 million people eliminated, including 30 million independent farmers. Then was Stalin in the Soviet union with 23 million eliminated, and Hitler in Europe eliminating 6 million Jews, Russians and Poles. As I went down the list I noticed the Turks eliminating 2.5 million Armenians, Greeks, and Assyrians, all Christians. And then Kim Sung eliminating 1.6 million dissidents and only God knows how many Christians.

That gets us into present day persecution and murder of Christians by Communist regimes and Islamic nations who view Christians as either heretics or people desiring to be independent and free. We can go down the list of Islamic countries like Egypt, Sudan, Libya, Algeria, Lebanon, Iraq, Iran, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Nigeria, Yemen and Syria. Many of those former regimes tolerated Christians before Islamic regimes took over. Many of these innocent people can be considered martyrs and there are organizations that seek to assist or rescue martyrs before it is too late, like Voice of the Martyrs.

Most of those countries don't keep records of who is killed or driven out of their country as refugees, so maybe the only way to find out is to question the refugees and survivors. And Christian churches in those countries that persecute may have information unless the churches are destroyed and the church leaders. Probably we won't know until we get to heaven or get together with the Lord at His coming.

MARCH 2015

**Children's Message
Schedule**

**March 1st
Jason Kehr**

March 8th

**March 15th
Ron Walter**

**March 22nd
Glee Ann Kehr**

**March 29th
Nathanial**

**Schedule for Sunday
Greeters**

**March 1st
LUMC youth**

**March 8th
8:30—Lange Family
10:45—Girl Scouts**

**March 15th
8:30—Tasker Family
10:45—Woytek Family**

**March 22nd
8:30—Ende Family
10:45—Svoboda Family**

**March 29th
8:30—Stelter Family
10:45—Janovyak Family**

Stewardship Minute

Marty Knott
Chairperson, Stewardship and Finance Committee

This is the next in a series of articles about stewardship. In these articles I will try to inform you about the many ways you can contribute to your church's programs.

"Those Other Funds"

I had an inquiry a week or so ago about a church fund that they had started in honor of a relative some years ago. It was the Organ Fund, and I thought to myself that the church maintains several funds that you may not know about and that maybe I should describe a few of them.

The Organ Fund was established by a generous contribution from a member and so we established this fund. Since then additional contributions have been made to this fund by members who appreciate the church's pipe organ and wished to support it. When enough funds are available, the church plans to make some improvements to the organ's console, which is now very old and in need of help.

Often a fund is established to keep track of a fundraiser. Two examples are the pizza and cheesecake fund raisers. The proceeds of such funds are then transferred to another church fund such as the General Fund, but listing the details during the fundraiser helps to show its progress and proceeds.

As you may know, our church's Open Pantry is a major community outreach program. It started about 50 years ago as a small, old fashioned, kitchen pantry cabinet located in the lobby next to the doors to the sanctuary. It has grown over the years to a storage room full of groceries and bagging facilities. One source of its funding for food and vouchers are contributions made by local businesses, amounting to about \$25,000 a year!

A more remote outreach program of our church are the alternate-year trips to the Red Bird Mission in Kentucky where church members do repairs to the homes of poor families there. Funds have to be raised to support this work and pay for the housing and feeding of workers. These fundraisers can be tracked and supported until our next mission in 2016.

There are several more funds tracked by the weekly Treasurer's Report, some small and some large. You are free to provide support to any fund that you choose that might appeal to you, and as you can see from the Organ Fund story, suggest a new fund.

MEANINGFUL MOMENTS WITH GOD

*"Pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."
1 Thessalonians 2:17-18*

Immediate Prayers

Lucy, infection (*Debbie Hassert)
*Shelia Farrer, health issues
Florian Talos, diagnosed w/parkinson's (*Janovyak's)
*Charlotte Haveman, various health issues
Mike, Mayo Clinic (*George Lange's nephew)
Nanette Walsh, premature baby-Emmet (2 lbs) *Gina Walter
Kathy Parcell, complications/spinal surgery (*Arlene Knott)
Mike Parcell, five weeks of radiation therapy (*Marty Knott)
John Pearce, recovering from stroke (Tony Ferrazzi)
Ron Hamelen, Alzheimer's (*Joanne Goszczycki)
Ed, stage 4 colon cancer (*Janovyak's)
For all those suffering with cold/flu illnesses
Esther Gores, home hospice (*George Lange)
*Bob Norfleet, depression
*Roland Tasker, Colotis
Debbie Angileri, liver tumor (*Peg Pecher)
Connor Kratochvil, cleft palate (*Farrer's great nephew)
Lowry Family, (*Kay Norfleet)
Joe, has ALS & prayers for his wife Carole (*Cris Kerins)
Jeff Freeman, diagnosed with cancer (*Judy Janovyak)
Sandi Halicky, heart issues (*Halicky Family)
Bob, on dialysis, (*Peraino's friend)
Dan, looking for healing in family (*Ron&Carol Walter's Nephew)
David Mlady, illness (*Alice & George Lange)
Dale Chappell, (*Mike Chappell)
Alexandria Stojanov, 4 yr old w/brain tumor (*Rob Lange)
*Jason Kehr, cystic fibrosis, treatments at home
Shirley Chappell (*Mick Chappell)
For all troops and people in harms way
For all those that are looking for work

Answered Prayers: On the Road to Recovering

Chuck Herron (*Christine Miller)
*Ellen Davey
*Amanda Huegelmann
Julie, breast cancer (*Rosalie Lind's daughter)
*Juanita Hill
Nancy Martin, home (*Kay Norfleet's sister)
*Alberta Harden
Neil Janssen, keeping up with therapy/continued healing
*Josh Miller
Heidi Dupont, MS (*Rich & Barb Lee's daughter)

Grieving

The family & friends of Robert Andreas
The family & friends of Edward Caps
The family of Laurie (*Don & Loryl Fisher's friend)
The family & friends of Mike Hannan

Joys

For our Ash Wednesday Service
For Mark Huegelmann helping the office/pantry
For Julie's Pizza samples
For everyone who helped with Day Break
For Boy Scout's
For Mark Huegelmann leading worship
For Pastor Kelly passing her interviews J
For all those who visited Amanda Huegelmann when sick
For all who donated first aid supplies
For those celebrating birthday's and anniversaries
For those visiting our church

Important Dates in March

March 1st—Combined Worship
9:30 and Brunch
March 4th—Day Break Shelter
March 11th—Trustees Meeting
March 18th—Ad Council Meeting
March 22nd—Concert & Potluck
March 29th—Last Supper Drama
at 7:30 pm

Coffee Fellowship March 15th

Peg Pecher
Dawn Ferrazzi
Juanita Fick
Virginia Anderson
Bev Svoboda
Mary Ann Slade
Paulette Fries
Pat Farrer



Expanding Care Bear Ministry

Pastor Kelly takes communion to the "home bound" and visits those who are in the hospital. We are looking for people to prepare a home cooked meal and be with members when they have serious medical concerns-praying and providing support when needed. If you feel called to this ministry but are unable to cook, please donate gift cards from various places like Subway, Celina's or others in town, to distribute to members in need if Carebearers would not be able to provide a meal. Please consider this ministry prayerfully and contact :
Pastor Kelly: 773-428-7877
Church: 630-257-5210

Lemont United Methodist Church

25 West Custer
Lemont, Illinois 60439
Phone: 630-257-5210

Return Service Requested

New Wine March 2015

**Youth Group
Breakfast Club
Sunday's March
around 9:30 am**

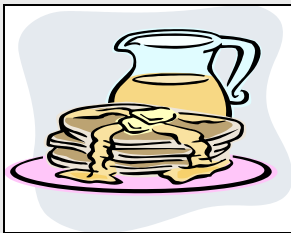
**At the youth lounge
Lemont United Methodist Church
25 West Custer Street**

Contact Pastor Kelly 630-257-5210

Sermons and Videos on Website

Worship services and other videos have been added to the website. From the home page <http://www.lemontumc.org> click the "Watch" link. For each sermon, there is a "Watch" link and a "Listen" link. The Watch shows the video using a Flash player. The Listen button will play or download an mp3 file. If you have an mp3 player, it can copy it

United Methodist Men



**Saturday,
March 14th
8:00 am**

Come and join us! The Lemont United Methodist Men (UMM) will meet in **Fellowship Hall at 8:00 am**. Lemont UMM meets on the second Saturday of each month for breakfast.

This group is made available for the fellowship of all the men of the church and all are welcome to attend. Information about meeting dates and times are posted in the church calendar and bulletins.

**Jr. Choir for children ages 6—13
Every Tuesday at 6:30 pm
Contact the Church office at 630-257-5210
Come sing with us**

**Bread at Lemont UMC
Come, take and Share with your
neighbor every Wednesday
9:30 am —12:30 pm**

**Concert and Pot Luck Dinner
Sunday, March 22nd**

A Choir from the Downers Grove United Methodist Church is going on tour, and we are lucky enough to be their first stop! Please mark your calendars for March 22nd. We would love to have a huge turnout for this wonderful group. They will be singing at 5:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary and we will provide them with a warm Pot Luck Dinner and welcome following the concert, 6:00 p.m., in the Fellowship Hall. There will be a sign up in the sanctuary for Pot Luck items. Bring your entire family and friends for this wonderful night of music and fellowship. See you then.

Primetimers



**Saturday,
March 21st
12:00 pm**

This is a group made up of adults at least 50 years old. Primetimers meet monthly on the third Saturday of each month with a potluck lunch in Fellowship Hall at noon. Everyone brings a favorite dish to share for an enjoyable afternoon. If you have any questions, please call:

Juanita Fick
630-257-7639