

The Communicator

March 2015



LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOUR

The Communicator



THE PARABLES OF LENT is the mid week series beginning Ash Wednesday February 18th. Each service in this series focuses on a biblical parable that connects to Lenten themes. The sermons seek to reveal that within each parable's plot is woven a unique message about what we receive through the Crucified Christ.

Week 2: "Receive the Treasurer: The Hidden Treasure and the Priceless Pearl" Matthew 13:44-46. Two men give all that they have to buy objects of great worth. We who are priceless to Christ receive him who gave all that he had to call us his own.

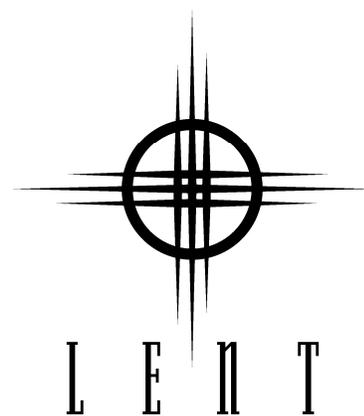
Week 3: "Receive Mercy: The Good Samaritan" Luke 10:25-37 A man beaten on the road gets help from an unlikely traveler. We who are often beaten down along the road of life encounter the healing of Christ through the cross.

Week 4: "Receive Grace: The Workers in the Vineyard" Matthew 20:1-16. All workers in a vineyard are given the same pay from the master, no matter how long they have labored. All who have been called by the Master are blessed by the same reward in Christ.

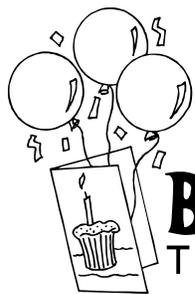
Week 5: "Receive Forgiveness: The Prodigal Son" Luke 15:11-32. A wayward son returns to the forgiving embrace of his father, who welcomes him home. We who have strayed return again and again to the embrace of our Father, through the sacrifice of his Son.

Each service (except Ash Wednesday) will be held at 12 Noon and 7:15 PM. Following the Noon service members may remain for soup and bring your own sandwich. The evening gathering begins at 6:30 with Subs and Soup (free will offering for the Subs) and worship at 7:15PM. Make this Lenten season a special one for you and your family. Join us for worship and praise and make it a part of your discipline.

Pastor Wilck



Newsletter of the
Lutheran Church of Our Saviour
2415 Chili Avenue
Rochester, NY 14624
585/247-7824
E-mail: LCOSRochester@frontiernet.net
Rev. Joachim Wilck, Pastor
Mrs. Mary Pleten, Editor
A member congregation of the
Upstate New York Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

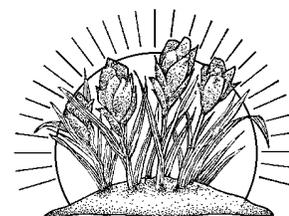
MARCH BIRTHDAYS . . .
HAPPY BIRTHDAY and BEST WISHES to all these members of Our Saviour who celebrate birthdays during the month of March. We pray for your continued growth in God's grace.

- 1-Leslie Brightman
- 1-Lauren Stoutenburg
- 1-Brandon Morningstar
- 1-Ashley Yackel
- 1-Jessiana Malaih-Randi Frank
- 3-Diane Parke-Potter
- 4-Laurel Girvin
- 4-Tyler Jones
- 4-Thomas Stuver
- 5-Michael Werth
- 6-Daniel Hahn
- 7-Sheila Foltz
- 8-Cassie Forrest

- 8-April O'Connor
- 9-Andrew Loughlin
- 10-Ann Marie MacBride
- 10-Tyler Potter
- 11-Brian Mochrie
- 11-Lincoln Carpenter
- 12-Thomas Glanville
- 12-John Hladis
- 12-Karen Saur
- 12-Caitlyn Farmborough
- 14-Garrett Lane
- 14-Cameron Ransom
- 14-Justin Pickett
- 15-Richard Zacharko
- 15-Anatole Pleten
- 16-Tanner Eberhardt
- 16-David Wiesmore
- 16-Brian Crnkovich
- 16-Ava Elizabeth Stuver
- 17-Annette Maas
- 17-Pamela Carmichael
- 18-Lisa Schroff
- 18-Kevin Spencer
- 20-Christa Witt
- 20-Lindsey Emerson
- 21-Lars Reafler
- 22-Carol Ransom
- 22-Franz Foltz
- 22-Lisa Loughlin

March Birthdays

- 23-Gene Northrop
- 26-Michael Christensen
- 26-Stephen Fichter
- 26-Carter Schroff
- 27-Jonathon Greene
- 27-Lindsay Werhmann-Guhl
- 27-Ernst Hafner
- 27-Rudy Vogel
- 28-Todd Grimes
- 28-Johannes Witt
- 29-Robert Riemer
- 29-Emily Klein
- 31-Elizabeth Crombe
- 31-Michelle Stone Coval
- 31-Martin Cumming
- 31-Logan Heid
- 31-Julia Bryce
- 31-Olivia Bo-Ri Strasser



March Anniversaries



THIS MONTH'S ANNIVERSARIES

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES . . .
Congratulations and Best Wishes to these members of Our Saviour who celebrate Wedding Anniversaries during the month of March. May God continue to bless you and increase your love for one another!

- 10—Chauncey and Minnie Urschel
Happy 59th Anniversary
- 11—Loren and Lorraine VanOrden
Happy 48th Anniversary
- 20—Ronald and Sharon Castrichini
- 27—Scott and Margaret Meli



New Offering Envelopes

New envelopes for the Mortgage Reduction Fund will be available
March 1
in the Narthex.

A STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

As baptized members of the body of Christ, we gratefully confess Jesus as our Lord and Savior. We boldly proclaim the gospel as the Word of God. We clearly recognize the gifts that God has first given us through grace, and we joyfully accept our role and responsibility as stewards.

The following principles provide a foundation for the life of a faithful and generous steward. WE WALK TOGETHER AS STEWARDS IN GOD'S CHURCH.

RESPOND GRATEFULLY to what God has first given us. All that we do is a response to God's grace. Everything we are, have, and use comes from God. Best of all, God gives the gift of Jesus Christ and the community of believers. It all begins with God. Our confession of faith in Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior is not of our doing. Grateful stewards put God first.

OBEY RESPONSIBLY to glorify God as a faithful proclamation of God's word. We acknowledge our faith and show our faith in the gospel for the glory of God and for the building up of the body of Christ. This takes courage. It involves our life-long obedience. Including the ways we treat our families, others, and ourselves.

SACRIFICE PROPORTIONATELY as Christ sacrificed for us. For our sake Jesus gave up everything to make us rich through the cross and the resurrection. We are called to sacrifice so others may share in God's word and blessings.

GIVE WILLINGLY as moved by the Holy Spirit. We have been prepared to give of ourselves. We give our time, talents, and resources freely.

SHARE ABUNDANTLY as we have received. The purpose of these gifts is for the good of the community of God. We give to build up the body of Christ. We use and share our gifts for the benefit of all.

GIVE PROPORTIONATELY is our way of giving in relation to our abundance. We are to give according to our "means," not according to an income or a budget.

GIVE INTENTIONALLY means making a statement about your intent and following through. As members in the body of Christ, we are asked to make a commitment of our time, talents, and resources as a faithful response to God and as a statement of support for God's work.

CONTRIBUTE REGULARLY means practicing our stewardship on a daily basis. By doing so, this becomes a lifestyle. Paul instructs us: *"On the first day of every week, each of you is to put aside and save whatever extra you earn."* 1 Cor. 16:2.

LIVE GENUINELY means putting your faith into action. This is the tangible demonstration of what is sincerely on our hearts and where our treasure is, not simply a verbal expression. The Macedonians set an example that Paul called to the attention of the Corinthians. *"I am testing the genuineness of your love against the earnestness of others."* 2 Cor. 8:8.

ACCEPT A CHALLENGE means recognizing the dynamic nature of our faith. As our faith grows so will our blessings, and our responsibilities. Paul writes: *"...the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully."* 2 Cor. 9:6.

Our role as God's stewards is one of many dimensions—grateful, responsible, self-sacrificing, willing, sharing, proportionate, committed, regular, genuine, and challenged. By generously giving of ourselves, we discover joy in Christ.

"...you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Cor. 9:7.



Preschool News

February was very cold and snowy, but we had fun in Preschool. We learned about God giving us friends to play with and for our best friend, Jesus. During this month we also learned about the groundhog seeing his shadow, our teeth, and Presidents' Day. A hygienist came to visit our class and talked to us about taking good care of our teeth. The highlight of the month was making a beautiful Valentine card for our parents and our Valentine's Party. We loved getting our little Valentine cards from our friends.

March will be a busy month for us. In our Jesus time, we will talk about showing kindness to our family and friends. We will also continue learning about the miracles of Jesus and about the days leading to Jesus death and rising again. During this month we will celebrate the birthday of Dr. Seuss by reading several books that Dr. Seuss wrote, make a Dr. Seuss project and a special snack. We will also discuss how March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb. The class will chart how many lion days and lamb days we have in the month of March. On St. Patrick's Day, we will have a party and hope that the Leprechaun will bring us some of his gold. On March 20th, we hope to celebrate Spring. Preschool will begin their Easter break the last week of March. We wish you a Blessed Easter!

Mrs. Stefaniak and Mrs. Bartello



NG's US News

Our first Kick-Off Game Night held on February 6th was a success. Fun was had by all! Thank you to the parents, grandparents and young people who helped make the night such a success. We invite everyone to check out the picture board in the Narthex showing how much fun we had.

We will begin our weekly Wednesday night meetings February 25th 6pm to 7pm.

Join us for Winter Fun on March 8th!!!! We will be hitting the slopes for some sledding. Dress warm and bring your sled, toboggan or tube. We will meet at the church at 1pm. After we hit the slopes, we will return to warm up at the church with some hot cocoa and snack.

Any questions, call Janeen Oliver at 486-4511

Dates to remember:

Starting February 25th, we will be meeting Wednesday nights from 6pm to 7pm. Dinner will be provided.

March fellowship fun March 8th. Meet at church at 1pm. Ending time will be determined by the weather.

LYO Happenings

Dates to remember:

Come on March 28th at 10 am and help set up for the Church Easter Candy Hunt. This year we will be helping with the Easter Candy Hunt. After we help set up for the candy hunt, we will help the younger children as they walk around hunting candy and filling their baskets.

After the candy hunt we will need the LYO to stay and help set up for our Annual Palm Sunday Pancake Breakfast. We will need all hands on deck!!!!

Bring your favorite game!!!! After set up for Candy hunt and Palm Sunday Breakfast, we will hang out for Game Day Fun.

March 29th We will hold our Annual Palm Sunday Pancake Breakfast. We will need all youth for set up, cooking, serving and cleanup. Please bring a breakfast pastry/munchies to put on the coffee table.

Arrival time for the morning--TBA



LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOUR

MISSION STATEMENT

We, the members of the Lutheran Church of Our Saviour, as baptized followers of Jesus Christ will foster a living, expressive relationship with our Lord and our neighbors.

We will do this in a way that seeks to serve all segments of our congregation and community by:

- ◆ Providing a welcoming environment for youth and young adults.
- ◆ Strengthening the family unit.
- ◆ Involving the elderly and recognizing their special needs.
- ◆ Making Christ visible through worship.

Recommended by the Long Range Planning committee on October 27, 2010



Our congregation lost a long-time member in January. Carl Neumann, of Chili, passed away at age 90 on January 9th. Carl was a beloved husband to Virginia, father, and grandfather. He was an active member of Our Savior Lutheran Church for many years, and many of the congregation will remember him and his family. He taught weekly Sunday School at several Lutheran churches, including in Marblehead, Mass. and New Paltz, NY. He was also a lay reader, Communion assistant, and even gave a sermon. He will be missed. Carl served three years as a volunteer U.S. Army combat medic in the Pacific in WW II and is a decorated veteran, having received the Purple Heart and Bronze Star. He had careers in both teaching and business.



HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE. Please note:

April 2-5

Maunday Thursday we are adding a 12 NOON service of Holy Communion.

Good Friday we will have a German Service at 12:00 PM and the Service of Tenebrae at 7:30 PM.

The LYO is again sponsoring a Palm Sunday Breakfast

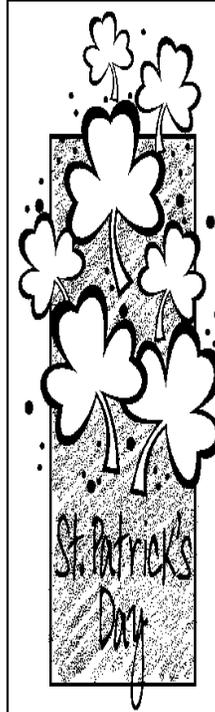
EASTER SUNDAY TIMES FOR WORSHIP are as follows:
8:00 AM Holy Communion and 10:00 AM Holy Communion.

There will be no 11:15 service.



Our Saviour Altar Guild invites you to place a *lily, begonia or a tulip* in the chancel for the Festival Easter Services celebrating the Resurrection of our Lord. Plants may be placed to the Glory of God, as an expression of joy at the Resurrection of Christ, and/or in memory of family members or friends who now share the resurrected love with our Lord in eternity!

The Guild is pleased that the price this year is only \$9.00 for lilies, begonias or tulips. Please sign the Reservation Sheet on the Narthex table by Sunday, March 15. Take an envelope and place it in the offering during any service. Plants may be taken home to sick and homebound friends and relatives following the 10:00 AM Service. Thank you.



JUBILEES ST. PATRICK'S LUNCHEON

The Jubilee's will be celebrating St Patrick's Day on Tuesday, March 17th at Ezzy's Family Restaurant, 885 Buffalo Road (across from Rick's Prime Rib Restaurant).

Our luncheon will start at noon, they will be serving cornedbeef and cabbage and we will be dining in their small party room. Please join us for this holiday celebration, a sign up sheet is on the Narthex table."

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Late in January we were informed that the freezer in the kitchen was not freezing; in fact it was not running at all. Investigating that, we found evidence of an electrical meltdown that would indeed make it non-operational. Another freezer in the kitchen that had been shut down last year due to lack of use was plugged in to take over but that one also did not run. The age and condition of either old freezer did not warrant repair attempts so with Council's approval we purchased a new freezer for the kitchen spending \$640 where monies came from the Reserve/Replacement Fund. With moving appliances around in the kitchen we are taking the opportunity to do some floor repair and renovation to the area under and behind the refrigerator and freezer. Cracked and broken floor tiles have been replaced under the appliances and up to the wall.

The heating system for the new wing has been troublesome over the past month with three components failing. Pump bearings and couplings have failed as has the vent control motor leading to a couple of chilly days for those in the office. All have been repaired or replaced by Rick Chapin and Ed Jarvis; their efforts saved the church what would have been at least a \$1000 repair bill by an HVAC contractor.

Snow and cold have been a major factor this winter. Ski resorts like it but we need to deal with the cold and push the snow around. So much snow was piling up in the parking lot that we hired a contractor to come in with some large equipment and push the piles back; now we have room for more snow. When will it stop? An old friend of mine would tell me we are not done yet; we haven't gotten our 100". One hundred inches of snow is the long term average that Rochester gets annually; I hope we are close. Jim Flick – Trustees Chairman



Included in this mailing you will find an Lenten Coin folder. The offering received from this coin folder will go to our Mission/E.L.C.A. benevolence. As we think about the Lent and Easter Season we are reminded that Christ came into the world to save sinners. Our benevolence dollars support the Mission and ministry of the Upstate New York Synod and the broader outreach of the E.L.C.A. Thank you in advance for your continued support of the mission of the whole church.



ALTAR GUILD INVITES CONGREGATION TO HELP MAKE PALM CROSSES

Members of the Altar Guild cordially invite all members of Our Saviour to help prepare Palm Crosses. These special crosses are distributed at worship on Palm Sunday and to the children of the Sunday School. The crosses are prepared on Saturday, March 28 at 9:30 AM.

We make hundreds of these crosses—which is why we need as many people as possible to be present. Please mark this date on your calendar and plan to come and help. Your efforts are much appreciated by all who receive these beautiful crosses!

PALM SUNDAY, March 29

Palm Sunday is March 29. This day, also known as The Sunday of the Passion, celebrates Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem. The crowds proclaimed Jesus king as they spread branches of palm and shouted praises to God. Our morning Traditional Services at 8:00 and 11:15 AM will include the Distribution and Blessing of Palms and The Passion of Our Lord.

The 9:30 AM Contemporary Service will include Distribution and Blessing of Palms and the briefer reading of the Passion story.

The Youth of the congregation will once again serve breakfast this morning in place of the Easter breakfast.



The children of our congregation are invited to the Annual Easter Egg Hunt. This year the Easter Egg Hunt will be on Saturday, March 28, at 10:30 AM. Please be sure to be on time. Be at church and ready to go by 10:30 AM! Parents should simply wait for their children, since once they have gathered all the special eggs and Easter treats, they will be ready to go home! The "Hunt" takes only 15 to 20 minutes.



Due to the weather, the Women of the ELCA did not meet in February.



SOME UPCOMING EVENTS TO MARK ON YOUR CALENDAR:

- | | |
|--|---|
| Tuesday, March 10 th at 6:30 pm | Book Club discussion on <i>The Housemaids Daughter</i> by Barbara Mutch |
| Tuesday, April 14 th | Dinner out with the ladies – restaurant not yet chosen |
| Saturday, April 25 th | LCOS will be hosting the Spring Assembly/Communion Brunch – Details to follow |
| Tuesday, May 12 th , 6:30 pm | Regular Meeting |
| Tuesday, June 9 th , 6:30 pm | Annual end of the year potluck dinner |

We continue to increase our membership and hope that this will continue as we move through the year. There is always room for more and we always have yummy refreshments too!

Ann Seppa, Secretary



BINGO PRIZES FOR WESTGATE NURSING HOME

The Women of the ELCA here at Our Saviour continue to collect items to be used as bingo prizes at Westgate Nursing Home. Members of the congregation are invited (and encouraged) to participate in this activity. A plastic box for donations is located on the large table in the narthex. The suggestions that follow were provided by the Recreation Leader at Westgate Nursing Home.

Women

- Stuffed animals
- Jewelry*
- Cologne
- Lotion (small bottles)
- Non-slip stocking slippers
- Large Print Word Search Books

Men

- Stuffed animals
- After-shave lotion or cologne
- Shaving cream
- Playing cards, large print
- Non-slip stocking slippers

* clip-on earrings only, necklaces must be long enough to fit over the head, and bracelets large enough to fit over the hand. Jewelry with clasps is difficult to handle.

Thank you for your support of this activity and to Donna Evenson who delivers our donations.

EQUAL EXCHANGE COFFEE, TEA AND CHOCOLATE SALES

Equal Exchange Products: Orders will be taken for the Equal Exchange products between services on Sunday, **March 8**. In addition to the numerous coffee and tea flavors, there are a number of new products available, including single serve coffee cups. The chocolate items have expanded to include not only the baking cocoa and hot cocoa packets, but also chocolate bars, chocolate chips and candy bars. There are a number of nuts and dried fruits available, as well as snacks and spreads. Remember that we do need to order in case lots. Individuals can join together to order a case.

Pastor's COLUMN

I have been asked recently, Why combine the passion and the palms? It is a good question and needs to be answered to help us understand our Lenten pilgrimage.

First, it is in accord with historical tradition. Since at least the fourth century, the focus on the first day of

Holy Week, or Great Week, has been the passion of Christ. After a palm processional, a Gospel passion narrative has been read. Western churches have kept the first day of Holy Week by concentrating on both the glory and the passion of Christ, recalling both the passion and the palms. ...

Pastoral values result from combining the passion and the palms. Many people simply do not attend worship on Good Friday. The result is that, for them, there is a distortion in the story. A story that skips from Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem to Jesus' resurrection from the dead evades the question, What happened in between? If we leap from Palm Sunday's "Hosannas" to Easter Day's "Hallelujahs" we overlook the pivotal event of Christ's suffering and death on the cross. The journey to Jerusalem has the cross as its goal, and the cross needs to be kept in sight even during the triumphal entry into Jerusalem. Where the long tradition of reading the whole passion narrative on Passion/Palm Sunday is appropriated, congregations have found the value of hearing the entire passion story. ...

The most important reason for combining the passion and the psalms is the relationship between the death and the resurrection of Jesus. To understand the resurrection, we must contemplate the passion of Jesus. Long, careful meditation upon the mystery of the cross must precede the glorious message of Easter.

On the one hand, an *oversimplified theology of glory* can *undervalue* death by implying that it is merely a stepping-stone on the path to resurrection. Therefore, in order to experience resurrection, one simply dies, and on dying will automatically ascend from the grave to glory. On the other hand, an *oversimplified theology of the cross* can *overvalue* death as a "work," by implying that resurrection is merely a consequence of the passion; therefore, if one suffers and dies for the faith, one will have earned resurrection. Instead, the cross *and* resurrection must be held together theologically. The extent to which we understand the resurrection of Jesus will be determined by our understanding of his passion.

Thus, the palm procession with ringing Hosannas symbolically foreshadows the Hallelujahs of God's promised future when the risen Jesus will lead his people into a new

Jerusalem. Interwoven with such liturgical experiences are the stories of the passion of Christ. Thus, the eight-day week from Passion/Palm Sunday to Easter Day is framed by resurrection and death on one side, and death and resurrection on the other.

The need to affirm, as Holy Week begins, the inseparable relationship between the death and the resurrection of Jesus is precisely the reason the passion of Christ and the palms are linked together as Passion/Palm Sunday.





Those who are homebound or reside in nursing homes... Audrey Citro (St. John's Home), Hans Strasser (Jewish Home, Winton Road) Betty Tesch (Edna Tina Wilson Home) Helen Pleten (Emeritus Home on Long Pond Road).



♥ **Daryl Jarvis, Mary Ellen Saur, Ann and Gordon Seppa, Alexandra Pond, Carol Werth, Linda Loughlin** for collating, stapling, addressing and mailing the February newsletter.

♥ **Mary Ellen Saur, Richard and Sharon Yackel** assembling the bulletin each week for congregational mailings, and numerous other office jobs.

♥ **Mary Ellen Saur** for changing the message on the sign

- ♥ **Marielies Renke** for continuing to care for the plants in the narthex and replacing the flowers in the planter.
- ♥ **Jim Flick** for shoveling the sidewalks.
- ♥ **Richard Yackel** for continuing to coordinate the cleaning staff for the upper level of the church.
- ♥ **Deb Reinecker, Ed and Daryl Jarvis and Mary Ellen Saur** for setting up the tables and chairs for Shrove Tuesday.
- ♥ **Rich Yackel** for shredding outdated paperwork.
- ♥ **To all the Sunday Contemporary Power Point volunteers.**
- ♥ **Ann Seppa** for helping in the office with year end duties.
- ♥ **Rick Chapin, Ed Jarvis and Jim Flick** for making repairs to the boiler.
- ♥ **Brian, Pam and Brayden Spencer, Deb Reinecker, Ed and Daryl Jarvis, Mary Ellen Saur** for cooking and helping with the Pancake Supper.

The commitment and dedication of all members of Our Saviour are important to the congregation's mission and ministry. We want to recognize the tasks done by members. Committee/Board Chairs and others are asked to share these names with Office Manager, Mary Pleten for inclusion in future issues of the **Communicator**.



WOMEN OF THE E.L.C.A.
Women of the E.L.C.A. meet Tuesday,
March 10 at 6:30 PM.

**EVANGELISM
COMMITTEE**
THURSDAY, March 5, 7:00 PM

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, March 3, 6:30 PM

ELDERS MEETING

Sunday, March 1, 12:15 PM

STEWARDSHIP MEETING

Thursday, March 19, 7:00 PM



LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOUR

2415 Chili Avenue Rochester, NY 14624

Phone: 585-247-7824
Fax: 585-247-7849
Email: LCOSRochester@frontiernet.net
Www:OurSaviourRochester.org

*Church Office Hours:
Monday-Friday
8:00 to 1:00 PM*

Pastor Wilck is normally in his church study Monday thru Thursday 9:00 AM-12:00 PM. He is available to meet you at church or at other mutually arranged times. You may also contact him or leave a message on 269-9086. On Friday Pastor's day off, he is available for pastoral emergencies. When calling the church after hours, and wishing to leave a message for Pastor Wilck, when prompted dial Extension 311 for his personal voice mail.

Please inform Pastor Wilck whenever there is an illness or hospitalization in your family. He appreciates your help. When you are admitted to a hospital, please list your religious preference as "Lutheran Church of Our Saviour" and contact Pastor or the church office.



Mid week Lenten Services
continues
Wednesday, March 4, 11, 18, 25

LYO
serve breakfast
Palm Sunday, March 29, 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM
in the Augsburg Room.
Please join us!



March 8



**THE LUTHERAN CHURCH
OF OUR SAVIOUR
2415 CHILI AVENUE
ROCHESTER, NY 14624**

**CHANGE SERVICE
REQUESTED**

DATED MATERIAL

Permit No. 1559

Rochester, NY

**PAID
U.S. POSTAGE**

Non-Profit Org.