



Revelations

of First Evangelical Lutheran Church – 19419 Royalton Road – Strongsville Ohio 44149
440.238.7890 – www.firstchurchalive.org

March

2017

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

One of my fondest memories of my youth is attending Lenten mid-week services at my home congregation. I looked forward to a quiet time in the middle of a busy week to focus on the passion of our Lord. Those services became an oasis, a way to nurture my blossoming faith, and to walk more closely with Jesus. I'm thankful for the pastors and musicians who devoted their time and talents to help lead me through the darkness of the crucifixion to the light of the resurrection.

Through the years, Lent has become my favorite season of the church year, a way to mark time through the last vestiges of winter, knowing that Easter waits at the end of the journey and all things will be made new. We get to focus on the nuts and bolts of Jesus' ministry and revisit amazing stories like the temptation of Jesus in the wilderness, the Samaritan woman at the well, and the raising of Lazarus from the dead. We relive Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem to the shouts of "Hosanna!", the last supper where Jesus took upon himself the role of servant and washed the disciples' feet, and the ugly, agonizing death of Christ at the cross of Calvary. And unlike Christmas, we can travel this road without the distractions of a million commercials, special sales, and shopping frenzies. Lent is where the rubber hits the road, where Jesus becomes a viable threat to our way of life, a time where we must decide if we're really going to follow this rabbi or sink back into a life of honoring the status quo.

And so, my friends, I invite you to make the most of this year's Lenten season. Come and worship on Ash Wednesday and hear the stark reminder that we are dust, and to dust we shall return. Join us for mid-week suppers and services every Tuesday evening, and lose yourself in the beautiful liturgy of Holden Evening Prayer. Make a point of worshiping every Sunday. Circle your calendars for Holy Thursday and Good Friday and immerse yourself in the incredible depth of God's unconditional love. I promise that you won't be disappointed. In fact, I promise you will be enriched, your life will be changed, and you will grow closer to our Lord.

In this month's edition of the *Revelations* you will find detailed information about all of our worship opportunities during the Lenten season. I look forward to walking this sacred path with you, trusting that God's mercy and grace will be revealed in amazing new ways.

May God's peace be with you!

Pastor Chuck



WORSHIP NOTES FOR



Ash Wednesday

Wednesday, March 1 7:30 PM Imposition of Ashes, Eucharist

Lent 1

Sunday, March 5 8:30 AM Contemporary Worship, Eucharist
 11:00 AM ELW Setting1, Eucharist

NO PUB CHURCH IN MARCH

Holden Evening Prayer

Tuesday, March 7 7:15 PM Mid-Week Lenten Service

Lent 2

Sunday, March 12 8:30 AM Contemporary Worship
 11:00 AM ELW Setting 1

Holden Evening Prayer

Tuesday, March 14 7:15 PM Mid-Week Lenten Service

Lent 3

Sunday, March 19 8:30 AM Contemporary Worship, Eucharist
 11:00 AM ELW Setting 1, Eucharist

Holden Evening Prayer

Tuesday, March 21 7:15 PM Mid-Week Lenten Service

Lent 4

Sunday, March 26 8:30 AM Contemporary Worship
 11:00 AM ELW Setting 1

Holden Evening Prayer

Tuesday, March 28 7:15 PM Mid-Week Lenten Service

NEW ADULT CLASS

A new adult class will begin **Sunday, March 5 at 9:45 AM**. *Creed - What People Believe and Why* is a brand new study from Adam Hamilton. In *Creed*, we will spend six weeks exploring not only what Christians believe, but also why we believe, and why it matters, which in turn will lead us to confront and examine our own core beliefs and go beyond just reciting the familiar words of the Apostles' Creed.

WILDERNESS TIME

Join us **every Tuesday during Lent** for a light supper (**beginning at 6:00 PM**) and Holden Evening Prayer (**beginning at 7:15 PM**). Based on the story of Jesus' temptation in the wilderness we will explore how a wilderness time in our own lives can teach us new and important lessons about our faith.

Tuesday, March 7	A Time for Learning
Tuesday, March 14	A Time for Challenge
Tuesday, March 21	A Time of Dependence
Tuesday, March 28	A Time of Doubt
Tuesday, April 4	A Time of Comfort

VOLUNTEER VAN DRIVER NEEDED FOR SOUTHWEST GENERAL

Volunteer lift van drivers are needed as part of Southwest General's Van Transportation Program. Drivers would be requested to work one, four-hour shift per week, and must have a current driver's license and a clean driving record. They are looking for drivers to transport elderly and wheelchair-bound patients to medical appointments. If you, or someone you know, might be interested in this rewarding service opportunity, please call *Lenita Harsch* at 440.816.4046.

SAVE THE DATE TO SAVE A LIFE

Sunday, March 12 from **8:00 AM to 1:00 PM** in the *Fellowship Hall* has been added as a new blood collection date to help the Red Cross with their current blood emergency. There is no substitute for your donation; all blood types are urgently needed. Double red cell donations will be accepted. Appointments are encouraged but not required; sign-up sheets will be available on the *Welcome Center* or sign-up on line at www.redcrossblood.org.



OVER 50's GROUP

...will meet on **Tuesday, March 14 at 12:15 PM** Bring your lunch and join us.

SPECIAL THANKS and BLESSINGS to BLAST for yet another delicious lunch, outstanding entertainment and special attention to our Over 50's Group on Sunday, February 12. We enjoyed conversing with our youth who were so delightful. They were caring, polite, and sincere. We wish them the best in their future goals! This annual event seems to be getting better every year. We are very grateful to all who helped plan, organize, cook and set up this blessed event. Kudos! Good job!

EARTH DAY EXPERIENCE AT THE WATERSHED STEWARDSHIP CENTER

Saturday, April 22

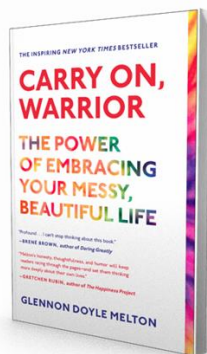
Meet at 9:45 AM

10:00 – 11:00 AM Tour 11:00 AM Lunch/Hike
2277 West Ridgewood Drive Parma, OH 44134

An event for the entire church family. On Earth Day learn about the health of our urban watershed. After exploring the center, enjoy a picnic and/or hike. Bring a picnic lunch. Drinks will be provided. Please sign up at the *Welcome Center*.



Women of ELCA Upcoming Events



Book Club

Saturday, March 18 at 9:00 AM

Location: *Giant Eagle Market District Strongsville*

Grab a cup of coffee (or even breakfast) and join us upstairs as we read this funny and authentic book. You can do your grocery shopping afterwards.

Natural History Museum & Lunch

Saturday, March 25th, 10:15 AM - Meet at the church

Cleveland Museum of
NATURAL HISTORY



Woman of New Covenant Lutheran and Woman of First Lutheran have been invited to go to *The Cleveland Museum of Natural History* (1 Wade Oval Dr. Cleveland, Ohio 44112). We will have lunch in University Circle afterwards.

Sign up at the Welcome Center for all events

Coming after Easter ~ Spring Bible Study ~ TBD



KIDS HOPE USA

Maryann Tower is one of our KIDS HOPE USA mentors who shows up faithfully every week to bring hope to a child. She is in her fourth year of mentoring the same child. She graciously allowed me to interview her about her experience as a mentor for this month's article.

Why did you become a KIDS HOPE USA mentor?

I had talked to other mentors who were having a very positive experience, so when I retired from my full-time day job, I decided that I would sign on. I was also prompted by an article about a girl who needed a mentor and thought it would be fun to have a young girl in my life. It sounded like she needed a friend, and I thought I could be that friend.

What have you learned through mentoring?

I have learned that even though this is a very different world from when I was raising my child, children are children, and they all have hopes and fears, sweet dreams and nightmares just as we did.

Has anything surprised you during your mentoring experience?

You mean besides the math??

What have been some highlights from the relationship you developed with your mentee?

I am very happy that we are a good fit. We laugh together. She trusts me and for that, I am very grateful. I also have developed a positive relationship with her father. We sometimes talk, and he tells me things she needs or concerns he has for her so that they can be addressed during mentoring.

What would you say to someone who is considering becoming a KIDS HOPE USA mentor?

Give it a try. There's a child who needs you.

At this point several mentors are needed. Please consider volunteering to bring hope to a child. Contact me at 330-225-3922 or at g.reichert68@gamil.com for an application or if you have any questions. Thanks!

Gloria Reichert

Director, KIDS HOPE USA

"The choice to not do something can sometimes haunt us more than things we've actually done."

David Staahl, **Show Up**

MARCH VOLUNTEERS

	March 1 Ash Wednesday 7:30 PM	March 5 1 st Sunday of Lent	March 12 2 nd Sunday of Lent	March 19 3 rd Sunday of Lent	March 26 4 th Sunday of Lent
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Acolytes
Ellen Kolman

Ushers
Maureen Shorts

	8:30	Michelle Arula Karl Arula Gayle Pekkola Hank Pekkola	Mary Barnes Pam Simpson Herb Simpson Alice Trieber	Renee Chaya Dave Chaya Bob Strong Alli Thellman	Stacy McNamara Mike McNamara Gladys Otto Linda Browning
Alan Evangelista	11:00	Jerry Krueger Barb Krueger Mike Magons Jocelyn Magons	Bob Jacob Dennis Beckman Deepshikha Paul Kritika Paul	June Zakrajsek Jim Zakrajsek Reiner Mueller Herb Adams	Ron Warzel Mary Jane Warzel Dawn Evangelista Alan Evangelista
	7:30 PM	Ron Shorts Maureen Shorts			

Readers & CA **8:30**
Barb Krueger **Comm Assts:**

		Tony Rugar - RCA Karl Arula Don Nielsen Connie Nielsen Maureen Shorts	Dion Adanich	Josie McNamara Joy Blankenship Kurt Blankenship Chuck Whitecar Jonathan Paine Stacey McNamara	Jennifer Browning
	11:00	Sandy Truedler - RCA Holly Perzy Ron Warzel Mary Jane Warzel	Gloria Reichert	Sam Reichert - RCA Gladys Otto Janet Kaiser Renee Sadler	Audrey Kuntz
	7:30 PM	Linda Walker – RCA Jerry Krueger Barb Krueger Cindy Shoens			

Nursery
Bonnie Bailey

	8:30	Natalie Haggett Caroline Haggett	Margaret Bewie Erin Edwards	Ellen Kolman Jocelyn Magons	Jennifer Paine Kelly Worsencroft
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Counting Teams
Terri Mosley

		Curt Dean Jan Iglehart Bob Jacob	Wade Zwingler Mary Whitecar Pat Sauernheimer Daphne Leon	Jim Gist Sheri Gist Gary Walters Mary Walters Dick Kiplinger	Reiner Mueller Shelley Hoffman Al Hoffman Pierre David
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Altar Guild
Beth David

	Sandy Rath Billie Hoffman Karen McFarland Sue Schmidt	Pat Sauenheimer Janet Kaiser Sandy Kaskey	Dawn Evangelista Marsha Stephens Sheri Gist Tricia Nolder	Judi Minium Madge Buckley Janice Hentosh Carol Paulini	Barb Krueger Lynn Stenger Shelley Hoffman Sue Ludwig Jacquie McLemore
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March 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 ASH WEDNESDAY 7:30 – Worship Service	2 6:00 – Praise Band 7:30 – Men's Basketball	3 10:00 – Prayer & Care	4 Blake – Fellowship Hall 7:15 – Men of First Church Moody bible conference
5 9:45 – SCS 12:15 – Bell Choir 6:00 – Youth Board	6 6:30 – Brass Choir 7:00 – Bible Bonanza 7:00 – Confirmation 7:00 – AA	7 6:00 – Lenten Supper 6:00 – Crossroad Stitches 7:15 – Holden Evening Prayer 7:30 – Al-Anon	8 7:30 – Chancel Choir	9 6:00 – Praise Band 7:30 – Men's Basketball	10	11 9:30 – Strongsville Food Bank Daylight Savings Time!
12 8:00 - Red Cross Blood Drive 9:45 – SCS 12:15 – Bell Choir	13 Revelations Articles Due! 6:30 – Brass Choir 7:00 – Bible Bonanza 7:00 – Mentor Groups 7:00 – AA	14 12:15 – Over 50's Group 6:00 – Lenten Supper 7:15 – Holden Evening Prayer 7:30 – Al-Anon 8:00 – Cabinet	15 10:00 – Lydia Circle 7:30 – Chancel Choir	16 6:00 – Praise Band 7:30 – Men's Basketball	17	18 Kalnasy – Fellowship Hall 9:00 - WOW Book Club Market District Strongsville
19 9:45 – SCS 12:15 – Bell Choir	20 6:30 – Brass Choir 7:00 – Bible Bonanza 7:00 – Confirmation 7:00 – AA	21 8:30 - KHUSA 6:00 – Lenten Supper 7:15 – Holden Evening Prayer 7:30 – Al-Anon 8:00 - Council	22 7:30 – Chancel Choir	23 6:00 – Praise Band 7:30 – Men's Basketball	24	25 10:15 – WOW – The Cleveland Museum of Natural History
26 9:45 – SCS 12:15 – Bell Choir	27 6:30 – Brass Choir 7:00 – Bible Bonanza 7:00 – Pastors & Mentors 7:00 – AA	28 6:00 – Lenten Supper 7:15 – Holden Evening Prayer 7:30 – Al-Anon	29 7:30 – Chancel Choir	30 7:30 – Praise Band	31	Notes:

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pastorchuck1@gmail.com

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Pastor Kathleen Kluck
revklk@gmail.com

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