

CHURCH CONNECTIONS

Messages for God's People

Morgan United Methodist | St. John's Lutheran | St. Luke's Lutheran

on the web at luthadist.webstarts.com and facebook.com/stjohnmorgan

Worship Times

Our worship times for March are:

8:15 MUMC

9:30 St. Luke's

11:00 St. John's

These worship times are for March and April.

Dates for Communion

St. John's and St. Luke's have communion on March 3, 17, 24 and 31. Morgan United Methodist celebrates the Lord's Supper on March 24 and 31. Communion is offered at each Church on Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday, March 24 and 31.

Midweek Lenten Worship

Join us for our midweek Lenten worship series *The Body of Christ*. We will be blessed by the voices of other pastors from St. Matthew's/ Bethany and Gloria Dei. The schedule is as follows.

Date	Place	Theme	Pastor
Mar. 6	MUMC	Eyes of Christ	Pr. Shannon
Mar. 13	SL	Hands of Christ	Pr. Lowell
Mar. 20	SJ	Heart of Christ	Pr. Lowell
Mar. 28	MUMC	Blood of Christ	Pr. Lowell
Mar. 29	SL	Body of Christ	Pr. Lowell

St. Luke's WELCA

St. Luke's WELCA will meet at St. Luke's, March 4th at 7:00 PM

First Communion Class

First communion class will be held at 2:00 PM on Sunday March 17. This class is open to all third graders and above who would like to begin to receive communion. Each student is asked to bring an adult to class. Please contact Pr. Lowell if you or your child would like to join us!

Sunday School at St. Luke's

Sunday School at St. Luke's for March will be held on the 3rd and 17th from 10:00 to 10:45.

Colors on the Altar

Almost all of the month of March this year is spent in the church season of Lent. This is a period of 40 days leading up to the passion (his suffering and death) of Christ. This time is given to prepare ourselves for this incredible sacrifice through prayer and repentance. Purple is the color of the altar paraments, a color of repentance. At the end of Lent comes Holy Week beginning March 24 with Palm Sunday or the Sunday of the Passion and including Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. On Maundy Thursday the altar is stripped of everything, indicating mourning for Jesus' suffering and death. It remains stripped until his resurrection on Easter Sunday Morning, March 31, when the altar is festooned in white for the celebration.

Devos at the Depot

Join us at the Franklin Depot for Devos at the Depot. Join us for food, fellowship and music on the third Tuesday of the month. It's an opportunity to get together and talk about God in the real world.

We will be at the Franklin Depot Tuesday night, March 19, at 6:30 or so. Join us!

Bible Studies

We will have Bible Study at Gil-Mor Haven beginning at 1:45 the following Thursdays in March: 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th. All are welcome to come!

Men's Bible Study will meet on March 26th at 7:30 in the basement of St. John's. Please note the change in date from normal.

Prayer Concerns

Please keep these members of our parish and community in your prayers: Marlys Carpenter, Kathy Potter, Sandy Stokesbury, Sue Ziegenhagen, Curt Carpenter, Sandy Seehausen, Burdell Symens, Julie Wendinger, JoAnn Kotval, Dee Johnson, Makenna Van Kuelen, Glen Seifert, Marlys Symens, Jeri Forbrook, Sandy Schroeder Long, Pam Shefland, and Dorothy Nielsen, Brent Sandmann, Butch Zempel, Raynette Hansen, Todd Sherman, Landen Grejtek, Alice Wood, Irene Landgraff, Jan Rodvik, and JoAnn Jacobson.

Council Meetings

St. Luke's council is scheduled to meet Tuesday, March 12th at 7:00 PM.

Tri-Council will meet on Wednesday March 13th following worship at St. Luke's.

Ushers for March

Morgan United Methodist Church:

Jason Carlson and Drew Dallenbach

Parish Birthdays & Anniversaries

Please wish these people a happy birthday and anniversary as they celebrate another year of living and loving in God's world.

MUMC:

Albina Van Nurden 5, Chad Christensen 7, DeAnna Van Nurden 8, Kathy Potter 12, Phil Bickhardt 14, Meggan Hoffman 16, Deb Christensen 21 and Timothy Rivera 28

Anniversaries:

Rick and Momi Rivera 1, 1986
Jason and Dawn Malecek 24, 1996

St. John's:

Letty Huiras 12, Owen Dittbenner 12, Melissa Hillger 16, Andrew Fischer 25, Jamie Kerkhoff 28 and Sandy Kettner 30.

Anniversaries:

Dick and Jeri Forbrook 5, 1960
Ron and Bev Christenson 12, 2008
Lyle and Joan Drusch 18, 1961
Keith and Deb Christensen 20, 1977

St. Luke's:

Colton Birkemeyer 1, Jocelyn Nestand 1, Samantha Gruendemann 4, Michele Forsyth 5, Colby Rieke 5, Gary Scharfencamp 6, Ben Schacher 7, Katie Wendinger 8, Ashley Heibel 8, Reg Wood 11, Jan Alvig 11, Jim Lund 12, Lee Larson 14, Jordan Lund 17, Courtney Marlow 18, Becky Bethke 19, James Kanne 20, Cooper Sherman 20, Lori Buchanan 21, Doreen Lund 23, Bill Tonak 24, Linda Robben 24, Julie Hall 25, Scot Nissen 26, Katalyea Munsell 27, Brecyn Jo Knutson 29 and Elaina Heibel 31

From the Pastor's Desk

Recently I got to go see a musical adaptation of a young adult book by Rick Riordan called *Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief*. I had

From the Pastor’s Desk continued

been aware of this series of books, which are a retelling of many old Greek myths in a modern day context, since my son was a young reader and asked to listen to these books on long car rides during our vacations. It is kind of fun to see how the author chooses to adapt these old stories in a new landscape. All the same elements are there. Percy Jackson the son of Poseidon is sent on a long and arduous quest that he must complete to save the world. Sound familiar?

There are certainly some things that the Greeks got right as they told their stories. So many times the heroes were placed in impossible situations, that might sound familiar too. They told their stories as they saw life, filled with much to overcome and heroes that were able to overcome the very obstacles that they faced. One thing that is very different from what we know is how they faced them.

In the Percy Jackson books and the musical that I saw Percy is sent on his quest with only two friends to help. His dad who is a god barely acknowledges that Percy exists let alone talks to him. If Percy messes up or fails in some way it is up to him to fix it. No one is coming to save him.

We on the other hand know different. Yes, life is hard and full of arduous situations, but the difference is we do not go through it alone! We know that Jesus walks beside us, all the way to our death. And no matter how hard the going is he will never leave our side. When we mess up, and we know we will, he is still there, offering us forgiveness and strength to try again. We are not on our own. Oh, and one more thing, it is not up to us to save the world. Jesus already did that as he headed to the cross, the hardest journey, for you and for me. There he conquered death, and the grave, bringing us victory over both.

Blessings on your journey this Lent and Holy Week as we watch the one who walks with us walk to the cross for us.

God’s Peace, Pr. Lowell

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March

2024

Morgan United Methodist St. John's Lutheran & St. Luke's Lutheran

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
25	26	27	28	29	1	2
					Pastor's Sabbath	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Worship 8:15 MUMC 9:30 St. Luke's 10:00 St. Luke's SS 11:00 St. John's			7:00 Lenten Worship @ MUMC	1:45 Bible Study at Gil-Haven	Pastor's Sabbath	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Worship 8:15 MUMC 9:30 St. Luke's 11:00 St. John's		7:00 St. Luke's Council Meeting	7:00 Lenten Worship @ St. Luke's Tri-council meeting following Worship	1:45 Bible Study at Gil-Haven	Pastor's Sabbath	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Worship 8:15 MUMC 9:30 St. Luke's 10:00 St. Luke's SS 11:00 St. John's		6:30 Devos at the Depot at Franklin Depot	7:00 Lenten Worship @ St. John's	1:45 Bible Study at Gil-Haven	Pastor's Sabbath	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Worship 8:15 MUMC 9:30 St. Luke's 11:00 St. John's	Newsletter items due	7:30 Men's Bible Study at St. John's		1:45 Bible Study at Gil-Haven 7:00 Maundy Thursday Worship @ MUMC	7:00 Good Friday Worship @ St. Luke's	
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
Easter Morning Worship 8:15 MUMC 9:30 St. Luke's 11:00 St. John's						

Return Service Requested

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MORGAN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
ST. JOHN LUTHERAN OF MORGAN
ST. LUKE LUTHERAN OF FRANKLIN

