

*Evangelical Lutheran  
Church of Durham*

*~The church on the hill, lighting the way  
to God's love.~*

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**In March ...**

- **Thursday, March 5-**  
6 PM Lenten Supper &  
Worship at Durham
- **Tuesday, March 10 - 1**  
PM WELCA, 6:30 PM  
Church Council
- **Tuesday, March 10**  
WELCA at 1:30 PM
- **Thursday, March 12-** Pas-  
tor at Continuing Educa-  
tion event - 6 PM Lenten  
Supper & Worship at  
Christ
- **Sunday, March 15 - 3 PM**  
Palisades Cluster meets at  
Durham
- **Thursday, March 19-** 6  
PM Lenten Supper &  
Worship at Trinity
- **Thursday, March 26 - 6**  
PM Lenten Supper &  
Worship at Durham
- **Saturday, March 28** at 10  
AM - Community Easter  
Egg Hunt

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# EVANGEL

## March 2015

**"We are a People of a Covenant - the Covenant of Baptism"**

Covenant is not a popular word in our culture or daily conversation. Much more common is the word "Contract." In a contract, I agree to do something for you (like make a mortgage or car payment), and you, in turn, will do something for me (sign over the house or car). We are so accustomed to this kind of give and take in our relationships and daily doings, that the concept of covenant is foreign to us.

But the Hebrew Scriptures highlight "covenant" - more specifically covenants (plural). In these covenants, God freely gives us a blessing, a promise, a gift, which changes our identity and our purpose as human beings. Throughout the Lenten Season in 2015, the Old Testament readings focus on five covenants: Covenant with Noah (February 22); Covenant with Abraham and Sarah (March 1); Covenant with Moses and the Israelites on Mt. Sinai (March 8; Covent of healing and life for the Israelites in the wilderness (March 15); and a new covenant for the people through the Prophet Jeremiah (March 22). These covenants provide many blessings to the people of God - a rainbow and a promise never to destroy with a flood again; a new name and a new home and descendants; the 10 commandments as a guide for healthy living; healing from sin; and a blessing of God's presence in the heart, not just on tablets or paper.

You and I are all descendants of these convents and one more - the unbelievable covenant God makes with us in our baptism. Though we are sinners, rebellious and forgetful of God's will for us, God washes us, forgives us, and through His Son Jesus, dies for us. We are healed and saved a given a new life through the waters of baptism. This baptismal covenant is made with us individually, but the new life we are given in baptism is for the sake of the whole world. In a way we are given new names, a new identity. In baptism we are "always being made mew."

Let's observe Lent together on Sundays and on Thursday evenings, and in our daily lives as children of our baptismal covenant.

*~ Pastor David Deal*



Mid week Lenten Worship

Thursday evenings during LENT

6 PM Light Supper

7 PM Holden Evening Prayers

3/5 at Durham; 3/12 at Christ, Springtown; 3/19 at Trinity Pleasant Valley;



For most of us on Council, the worst part of the job is counting the receipts after church. It doesn't seem that daunting: sort the envelopes by type, count the loose cash and checks. Open the envelopes, separate by cash or check, assure that the check number and amount are correctly written on each envelope, list the totals on the weekly sheet under each category. The problems come when we total everything and the amounts we have don't match the totals on the sheet and we have to go over and over everything trying to reconcile the amounts. The most common cause of the totals not matching up are checks split among multiple envelopes. They cause untold hours of misery for our counters, and for our Financial Secretary, who has to try to rectify the errors. The absolute worst are checks split between different deposit accounts, such as the regular account and the building or memorial fund. Believe me, no one who has ever dealt with this would dare inflict it on fellow council members on pain of shunning.

Of course, no one wants to write three or four checks each week to donate to the multiple causes in our envelope box. What works for me is to write my largest check at the beginning of the month to the regular [green] envelope. Most of the expenses are paid from that fund, including the costs of communion. Other weeks, I might choose to donate to one of the designated funds, Mission Support, Good Neighbor, or Building; one envelope, one check. If I just want to put a few dollars toward something, cash works fine. Of course, we'll gratefully take your money any way we can get it, but good volunteers are hard to come by. We don't need to discourage them by making their job any harder than it needs to be. Thank you for your consideration, and for all you give and do. Keep praying that our boiler holds on just a little longer.

Val McGinn, Council President

Next Council Meeting: March 10 at 6:30

Council Assignments for March: Joe Hlavaty and Lynn Gaun

**NOTE: Because of repeatedly bad weather, our Annual Congregational Meeting was indefinitely postponed. You can pick up a copy of the Annual Report in the Narthex.**

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Because of the weather, our February WELCA meeting was cancelled.

We invite all women of the congregation to join us on Tuesday March 10<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 in the Fellowship Hall for tea, talk and scones (or coffee, chat and scones if you prefer). The topic of conversation will be prayer.

We will hold a brief business meeting to give away the proceeds from our two soup suppers. **All are invited to attend (particularly everyone who helped with this project).**



Helen Dungan

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**Missing!** Four green tablecloths are missing from the church kitchen. We used to have 10, now there are only six. If you have the tablecloths, please return them ASAP! Thank you!

## Outreach

Helen Dungan

**Souper Bowl of Caring:** Cheryl Mesko reports that 14 very full bags of groceries were collected and delivered to the two food banks. She bought added food with the cash donations.

**Food baskets:** If you would like to donate a food basket during Lent, there is a signup sheet on the bulletin board on the right as you exit the church. You can either purchase the groceries yourself or delegate the task to me.

We will be collecting **CONDIMENTS** for the food banks in March. These were requested by ProJeCt in their January wish list.

**Hymning:** We will take the music of Holy Week to our shut in members on Palm Sunday. We will have lunch at the Dungan's (and sing with Mary) before visiting others to share the hope of Easter.



Helen Dungan

We made lots of soup and did not sell out. We also had 40 people eat in (39 adults and 1 youth). By the end of the evening we had sold 109 quarts of cream of broccoli and 107 quarts of chicken noodle. We had soup leftover most of which was sold; a pot of chicken noodle was frozen for our Lenten supper.

**Once again THANK YOU to everyone who helped and support us:**

**Generous donators:** **The Kressmans** for supplying us with the stewing chickens, onions, and broccoli. **Dot Peterman and Mark Harwick** who bought and cooked extra chicken for the soup. **Diane DeWalt** who donated 10 gallons of milk for the broccoli soup. It is the generosity of everyone who contributes that makes our profits so high.

**The broccoli team:** Mark Harwick who "gleaned" the broccoli from fields at Trauger's Farm in late fall; Althea Crouse, Esther Crouse, Mark Harwick, and Dot Peterman who cleaned, blanched and froze it for our soup.

**Our bakers:** Miriam Anderson, Althea Crouse, Helen Dungan, Betty Fox, Cheryl Mesko, Paul McGinn (and others) for their donations of cakes and bread. Also to Barbara Naska who made a big fruit bowl as she did last month.

**The Monday night crew,** Miriam Anderson, Helen Dungan, Valerie and Paul McGinn, Joe Hlavaty and Mark Harwick who strained broth, picked meat off the chickens, and washed pots and pans. A special thanks to Mark who was pot sitting all day (and lots of the night.)

**The chief chefs,** Mark Harwick (chicken noodle soup), Diane DeWalt (cream of broccoli soup) and Esther Crouse, administrative chef. We received numerous instructions NOT to run out of the broccoli soup; and Diane worked long and hard to see that we didn't.

**Finally, thanks to all the Wednesday workers** – Cleo Eck, Barbara Naska, Esther Crouse, Nancy Moskella, Lynn Gaun, Joe Hlavaty, Miriam Anderson, Betty Fox, Val McGinn, Althea Crouse, George Kreitz, Lois Miller, Dot Peterman, Helen Dungan, Cheryl Mesko, Diane DeWalt and Mark Harwick. I apologize if I missed anyone. These are the people who responded to our invitation to peel, slice, dice, cook, wash endless pots and dishes, set up tables, jar, serve, put everything away, and generally make this a fellowship as well as a service event. **You folks are great! It is the help that everyone gives that makes this possible. THANK YOU!**

## March Worship Assistants

	1*	8*	15*	22*	29*
Youth Acolyte Communion Assistant	Austin Apgar	Alaina Apgar	Matthew Mueller	Jack Pyne	Nicholas Phillipps
Greeter(s)	Althea Crouse	Ben Naska, Sr.	Esther & Bob Crouse	Dot Peterman	Bonnie DePortillo
Lay Worship Assistant/Lector	Beth Snyder	Val McGinn	TBA	TBA	TBA
Council Communion Assistants	Lynn Gaun Joe Hlavaty	Lynn Gaun Joe Hlavaty	Lynn Gaun Joe Hlavaty	Lynn Gaun Joe Hlavaty	Lynn Gaun Joe Hlavaty
Counters	Lynn Gaun Joe Hlavaty				
Head Usher	Adam Phillipps / Althea Crouse		* Asterisk indicates that Holy Communion will be served.		
Altar Guild	Betty Fox & Linda Sauter				

	March Birthdays		March Anniversaries
4	Amanda Harrison		
6	Gladys Nicholas (81st)		
7	Kenneth Crouse		
8	Alaina Apgar (18th) Kelvin DeWalt		
15	Samantha Mueller (8th)	28	Esther & Bob Crouse (62nd)

***We remember the following who were baptized in March:***

1 - Michael Rhine; 4 - Norma Rodenbach; 8 - Karen Bolesta; 12 - Blake Rodd; 15 - Evelyn Newcomb; 17 - Don Crouse; 23 - Rachael Roney; 25 - Althea Crouse; 28 - Clayton Lechliter; 29 - Steven Streletz



**Internet Update ... Please "LIKE" our Facebook page!** If you are on Facebook, please search for "Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham" or go to <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Evangelical-Lutheran-Church-of-Durham/166596531706> to "LIKE" our page, then share posts about events and activities to help us get the word out.

**A note about forwarding** There are many e-mails, blog posts, and Facebook pages these days whose goal is to create differences and disagreements between people. If you receive an e-mail or see a post that encourages you to be angry or hate another person or group, please think before you forward it. You can check whether claims are true by doing a Google search of a key phrase from the e-mail or post. Read a few of the articles that turn up and you will often find that many of the claims are not true or cannot be verified. Let us seek to build community and connections among God's people instead of spreading distrust and hatred!



CARE -A-LOT

Spring is just around the corner and we can't wait! We are tired of all this cold and snow and ready to see the flowers grow! This month we are "Working Together in Our Garden" so we will be learning about working together and what it means to be on a team. Pastor Dave will also talk to us about Working Together in our God's Gifts time.

In Math, we will learn about patterns. We will look for patterns in our clothing and around the classroom as well as other places. In Science, we will learn about Transportation and the different types of vehicles we use to get from one place to another. We will be taking our annual field trip to DeSales University. This year we will be seeing "Hansel and Gretel". We will also celebrate St. Patrick's Day.

This month, we will hold our Parent/Teacher conferences. We are also taking registrations for next year, so if you know of anyone who is interested, please have them call so they can come visit our class.

Love,

Mrs. Errico, Mrs. Pason and Mrs. Hower

**PRAYER**

*Please lift up in prayer the following:*



## ~ MARCH Highlights ~

**Midweek Lenten Services - "Holden Prayer Around the Cross"** - Thursday evenings during Lent 6 PM Light Supper, 7 PM Worship. The worship experience includes brief scripture and other spiritual readings - simple singing - candles and semidarkness - prayer at the cross - healing prayer - silence. The expected time for worship each week is 30 minutes.

Schedule: March 5: Durham; March 12: Christ, Springtown; March 19: Trinity Lutheran, Pleasant Valley; and March 27: Durham.

**Community Easter Egg Hunt** - Saturday, March 28, starting promptly at 10 AM. Bring your own baskets!

**Palm Sunday/Sunday of the Passion** - 10:30 AM Worship will include African Palm Crosses, Lutheran World Relief Eco-palms, Reading of the Passion of Our Lord from Mark and Communion.

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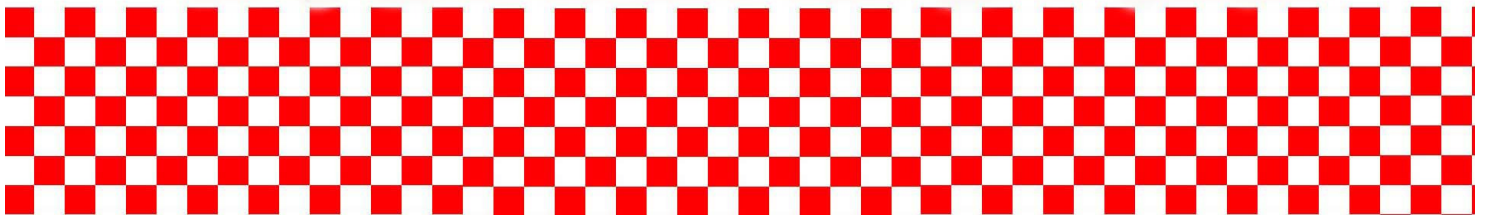
### Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup> ~ 4 to 7 PM

\$10 Adults    \$5 kids 6-12



3 seatings 4, 5 and 6 PM





Help send our kids to RISE UP Youth Gathering in Detroit this Summer! Bring your friends!



This Spaghetti Dinner is a benefit to support Katie Aquino, Alaina Apgar, 2 youth from nearby Lutheran churches, and their adult leader, Mary Crouse, who will be attending "Rise Up Together," the **2015 ELCA Youth Gathering in Detroit this July**. We will be looking for youth and adults to help with preparations and serving.

**We need a realllllyyy successful dinner** ... These are just some of the expenses our Youth Gathering attendees are facing - EACH: \$325 registration; \$225 bus fare; hotel for 5 nights; daily food allowance, and more. Estimated cost per person is \$1200. **So PLEASE get the word out and come eat with us on April 11.**

# March 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1 <i>Second Sunday in Lent</i></p> <p>9 AM Christian Education 10:30 AM Communion</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Pastor in Office AM</p>	<p>3</p> <p>9 AM - 12:30 PM Care-A-Lot Secretary in Office PM</p>	<p>4</p> <p>9 AM - 12:30 PM Care-A-Lot Pastor in Office AM 6:30 PM Choir</p>	<p>5</p> <p>9 AM - 12:30 PM Care-A-Lot Secretary in office PM 6 PM Supper/Worship at Durham</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Pastor at Home Office</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Pastor's Day Off</p>
<p>8 <i>Third Sunday in Lent</i></p> <p>9 AM Christian Education 10:30 AM Communion 3 PM Palisades Lutheran Cluster meets at Durham</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Pastor in Office AM</p>	<p>10</p> <p>9 AM - 12:30 PM Care-A-Lot 1 PM - WELCA 6:30 PM Council Secretary in Office PM</p>	<p>11</p> <p>9 AM - 12:30 PM Care-A-Lot Pastor in Office AM 6:30 PM Choir</p>	<p>12</p> <p>9 AM - 12:30 PM Care-A-Lot Pastor in Office AM Secretary in office PM 6 PM Supper/Worship at Christ, Springtown</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Pastor at Home Office</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Pastor's Day Off</p>
<p>15 <i>Fourth Sunday in Lent</i></p> <p>9 AM Christian Education 10:30 AM Communion</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Pastor in Office AM</p>	<p>17</p> <p><i>St. Patrick's Day</i> 9 AM - 12:30 PM Care-A-Lot Secretary in Office PM</p>	<p>18</p> <p>9 AM - 12:30 PM Care-A-Lot Pastor in Office AM 6:30 PM Choir</p>	<p>19</p> <p>9 AM - 12:30 PM Care-A-Lot Pastor in Office AM Secretary in office PM 6 PM Supper/Worship at Trinity, Pl. Valley</p>	<p>20</p> <p><b>SPRING BEGINS !!!</b> Pastor at Home Office</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Pastor's Day Off</p>
<p>22 <i>Fifth Sunday in Lent</i></p> <p>9 AM Christian Education 10:30 AM Communion</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Pastor in Office AM</p>	<p>24</p> <p>9 AM - 12:30 PM Care-A-Lot Secretary in Office PM</p>	<p>25</p> <p>9 AM - 12:30 PM Care-A-Lot Pastor in Office AM 6:30 PM Choir</p>	<p>26</p> <p>9 AM - 12:30 PM Care-A-Lot Pastor in Office AM Secretary in office PM 6 PM Supper/Worship at Durham</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Pastor at Home Office</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Easter Egg Hunt at 10 AM sharp</p>
<p>29 <i>Palm Sunday/Sunday of the Passion</i></p> <p>9 AM Christian Education 10:30 AM Communion</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Pastor in Office AM</p>	<p>31</p> <p>9 AM - 12:30 PM Care-A-Lot Secretary in Office PM</p>				

**Lent**

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SPRING

*EVANGEL*



March



2015