



Lamplighter Weekly

4th Sunday in Lent, March 22, 2020

Spanaway Lutheran Church

16001 A St. South – PO Box 1300

Spanaway, WA 98387

(253) 531-7000

office@spanawaylutheran.org

Our Week at a Glance



*A note
from the pastor*

¹ For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: ... a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing...

We live in extraordinary times. Even so, as unique as our circumstances may feel, as perilous or unsettling or anxious as the news we hear may be, it behooves us to remain calm and remember that throughout the course of human history societies and communities have survived and even thrived during just such times. Crisis like our present circumstances can evoke the best and the worst in our human nature. We can turn inward and let fear, uncertainty and worry consume us, or we can reach beyond ourselves and find purpose, strength, comfort and hope.

The single most important aspect of thriving during crisis is binding yourself to something more substantial than oneself. Those of whose identities are rooted in Baptism are especially blessed because Christ has grafted us into the life and work of the Living God. Our attachment to God can be strengthened in two profoundly important ways.

First, God's holy Word offers us guidance and comfort, but it does more than provide us with strategies and perspective. Reading Scripture grafts our lives onto the more resilient life of God's people, past and present. In times like these narratives relating how God's people have enduring harrowing challenges are particularly helpful (e.g. *Joseph's story Gen 37-50, Exodus, Ruth, Esther, Daniel, or Paul's letters written from prison – Ephesians, Colossians, Philippians and Philemon*). Beyond these consider reading Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John again. Reading Scripture devotionally brings with it the presence of the Holy Spirit, which fills us with an awareness of God's presence in our lives and our troubled world. Undertaking an intentional time of devotional reading offers us an anchor in uncertain times from which all of us

can surely benefit.

Another critical element in grounding ourselves in God's presence involves acknowledging that we, individually, are part of the larger Body of Christ in the world. St. Paul tells us in 1 Corinthians 12:

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³ For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free – and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. ¹⁴ Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many.

Even though we are not able to physically gather together to worship on Sundays, we can still connect with each other, drawing strength from one another. When we think of someone in the congregation during the course of our day, consider it a prompting of the Holy Spirit, and take the opportunity to reach out to that person. We are fortunate that we have many ways to electronically reach out to others, but hearing another person's voice brings the greatest comfort.

Confined more than usual to our homes, let us take this opportunity to strengthen the bonds of our community of faith, nurture mutual love for one another, and deepen our relationship with our Father through prayer and Scripture reading.

Peace,

Pastor Schier-Hanson

Should any need arise, please feel free to call me on my cell phone (253-365-1757).

Food for Families

March Serving Dates are Mar. 8, 22 & 29

Volunteers:

Mar 28	Pick-Up	SLC Volunteers
Mar 28	Set-Up	SLC Volunteers
Mar 29	Set-Up	SLC Volunteers
Mar 29	Distribution & Clean-Up	SLC Volunteers

Hours of Operation

Church Office	M – F	9:00am – 3:00pm
	Preschool	closed
BASE	M – F	5:30am – 6:00pm

March Birthdays

Ealane Wollin	March 2
Angela Rivera	March 2
Jeris Ockfen	March 3
Jeannette Frieson	March 4
Kevin Shearer	March 4
Tim Drewes	March 6
Jennifer Newman	March 11
Marlys Nasset	March 12
Jenna Frieson	March 15
Iver Eliason	March 16
Marlys McDowell	March 16
Suzanne Gayda	March 16
Cheryl Drewes	March 17
Genevieve Hovey	March 20
Carrol Shearer	March 22
Dennis Sanborn	March 22
Tyler Montague	March 23
Diane Kraus	March 26
Britt McCracken	March 27
Frank Wise	March 28
Sharon Vormestrand	March 28
Taylor Pedersen	March 29

There will be NO birthday luncheon this month!

Readings for March 29, 2020

Ezekiel 37:1-14

The dry bones of Israel brought to life

Psalm 130

I wait for you, O LORD; in your word is my hope. (Ps. 130:5)

Romans 8:6-11

Life in the Spirit

John 11:1-45

Baptismal image: the raising of Lazarus

We have cancelled this year's Easter flower order as it is unclear if we can hold our Easter Service in the sanctuary this year.

All monies will get refunded via check, unless otherwise instructed.

+++COVID-19 UPDATE+++

How it affects us here at Spanaway Lutheran Church!

BASE remains open and operates on full days now that schools are shut down.

Food Bank operates Wednesdays and Fridays from noon to 2pm until mandated otherwise.

Food for Families operates 2nd, 4th & 5th Sundays at 11:15am until mandated otherwise.

Outside Groups have been suspended until further notice.

Church Activities have been suspended until further notice, this includes all committee meetings, office volunteers, rehearsals etc.

The Church Office will be available by phone and/or email Monday through Friday from 9 am to 3 pm.

Pastor, Council and Worship & Music are working on providing some form of worship community for future Sundays. In the meantime, we will email you our weekly bulletins, modified Lamplighters and Pastor's sermons. All documents will also be posted on our website no later than Monday.

Stay well!

Peace,
Stefanie

Spanaway Lutheran Church

(253) 531-7000

www.spanawaylutheran.org

Contacts:

Pastor

John Schier-Hanson

pastor@spanawaylutheran.org

Office Manager

Stefanie DeZarn

office@spanawaylutheran.org

Director of Music Ministries

Cheryl Drewes

music@spanawaylutheran.org

Preschool Director

Ellen McCracken

preschool@spanawaylutheran.org

BASE Director

Kathy Olsen

BASE@spanawaylutheran.org

Council

Nancy Vignec, President

vignecland@msn.com

Laurel Wright Osborn, Secretary

dogdaktari@msn.com

Mary Herem, Treasurer

herem@comcast.net

Anne Briebl

annebriebl@comcast.net

Glen Ruediger

glynnmcg9@gmail.com

John Briebl

jbriebl@hotmail.com

Doug Hedlund

soleduck12@comcast.net

Erica Lustig

elustig2000@yahoo.com

Office Hours

Monday through Friday

9 am to 3 pm

Office is closed on:

New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Day, President's Day, Easter Monday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day, Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving Day, Friday after Thanksgiving, Christmas Day



We are praying for...

Kim Cleveland

Dave Percy

Lenville Sutherland

Angie Rivera

Justin & Adri Wright Osborn

Glen Ruediger

Diane Kraus

Kathy Olsen

Richard Olsen

Rose Raben

Michael Luberts

Joey

Dianna Kennedy-Svec

David Yu

Lord, in your mercy - hear our prayer.

