

#### LCMC Pastor Ethan Fearing

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### From the Pastor....

February 2025

Newsletter

To you, the LORD's beloved people of American Lutheran Church,

"We know how much God loves us, and we have put our trust in His love. God is love, and everyone who lives in love lives in God, and God lives in them." (1 John 4:16)

Lent is coming! This season of the church year builds toward Easter, inviting us to anticipate the Sunday of Jesus' resurrection. It's nearly two months of reflection, of remembering God coming to suffer and die on the cross in our place, and of setting aside extra time for that meditation. This is why we welcome you, starting Wednesday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, to take a break from the busyness each week as we celebrate God's sacrificial love. He came, died, and returned to life for you, for the great changing of your destiny, and that is why this Lent's theme is "LOVE BEYOND ALL MEASURE". Our worship services will be led by different musicians – like a concert series – and we'll be reflecting on the Bible in some new and exciting ways! Until then, enjoy our focus hymn for Lent 2025, "How Deep the Father's Love for Us":

How deep the Father's love for us, How vast beyond all measure! That He should give His only Son, To make a wretch His treasure. How great the pain of searing loss! The Father turns His face away; As wounds which marred the Chosen One Bring many sons to glory.

How deep the Father's love for us, How vast beyond all measure! That He should give His only Son,

## From the Pastor (Continued)

To make a wretch His treasure. How great the pain of searing loss! The Father turns His face away; As wounds which marred the Chosen One Bring many sons to glory.

Behold the man upon a cross: My sin upon His shoulders; Ashamed I hear my mocking voice Call out among the scoffers. It was my sin that held Him there Until it was accomplished; His dying breath has brought me life: I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything: No gifts, no power, no wisdom; But I will boast in Jesus Christ: His death and resurrection. Why should I gain from His reward? I cannot give an answer; But this I know with all my heart: His wounds have paid my ransom.

God bless you all!

By grace, through faith, in Christ, Pastor Ethan Fearing 320-874-0104

## **Sunday School Singers**



### **Pregnancy and Life Resource Center**



"EVERY child deserves a birthday", theme for Baby Bottle Campaign 2025.

Please consider filling a Baby Bottle to help support our local Pregnancy & Life Resource Center. Bottles are available in the entryway. Please pick up today and return by <u>FEBRUARY 16th.</u> Help to give these "little ones" and their families a "birth"day! Those "birth"days are of utmost importance to God, our creator, Who teaches us: "Before **I** formed you in the womb, **I** knew you, before you were born **I** set you apart." Jeremiah 1:5a NIV

THANK YOU in advance for your generosity!

# **Mission Focus**





The story of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:30-37) gives a clear picture of God's desire for us to help those in desperate need wherever we find them. After describing how the Samaritan rescued a hurting man whom others had passed by, Jesus told His hearers, "Go and do likewise." For over 50 years, Samaritan's Purse has done our utmost to follow Christ's command by going to the aid of the world's poor, sick, and suffering. We are an effective means of reaching hurting people in countries around the world with food, medicine, and other assistance in the Name of Jesus Christ. This, in turn, earns us a hearing for the Gospel, the Good News of eternal life through Jesus Christ.

As our teams work in crisis areas of the world, people often ask, "Why did you come?" The answer is always the same: "We have come to help you in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ." Our ministry is all about Jesus—first, last, and always. As the Apostle Paul said, *"For we do not preach ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake"* (2 Corinthians 4:5, NIV).

#### **Mission Statement**

Samaritan's Purse is a nondenominational evangelical Christian organization providing spiritual and physical aid to hurting people around the world. Since 1970, Samaritan's Purse has helped meet needs of people who are victims of war, poverty, natural disasters, disease, and famine with the purpose of sharing God's love through His Son, Jesus Christ. The organization serves the Church worldwide to promote the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.

# Service Group 1 – Jan - Feb

#### Service Group Responsibilities:

- Serve for funerals on a rotating basis every 7<sup>th</sup> Funeral.
- Serve for special events occurring during the two-month period.
- Call for Ushers during the two-month period.

#### **Group 1 Leaders:**

#### Doris Peterson Jane Olson

#### **Group 1 Members:**

Anderson, Blair & Marchell Baker, Misty Chapin, Bob & Tammie Faust, Kevin & Donna Gustafson, Woody & Marilyn Haugen, Bryan & Linda Hillig, Scott & Becky Krause, Ione Monson, Helen Olson, Kirk Ostendorf, Jim & Patty Parker, Chuck & Kathy Schneekloth, Gary & Pam Schultz, Pat & Tracy Simpson, Vicki Tirk, Al & Blanche

# February

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Kevin Faust

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Glenn Merritt
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Teresa Wiegers
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Kensley Gebhardt
- 6<sup>th</sup> Mary Emblom
- 7<sup>th</sup> Betty Oliver
- 8<sup>th</sup> Al Bruder
- 8<sup>th</sup> Brielle Flan
- 8<sup>th</sup> Brea Ostendorf
- 9<sup>th</sup> Darlene Jacobson
- 10<sup>th</sup> Debbie Pesta
- 11<sup>th</sup> Amy Holmquist
- 11<sup>th</sup> Reilly Jacobsen
- 11<sup>th</sup> Heather Marcyes
- 12<sup>th</sup> Sue Kaneski
- 14<sup>th</sup> Marsha Paulson
- 14<sup>th</sup> Jeni Vanselow
- 15<sup>th</sup> Jan Jorgensen
- 17<sup>th</sup> Hunter Katterhagen
- 18<sup>th</sup> Lon Hatton
- 18<sup>th</sup> Sierra Larson
- 18<sup>th</sup> Cole Ostendorf
- 19<sup>th</sup> Dan Hillman
- 19<sup>th</sup> Leora Hillman
- 20<sup>th</sup> Mason Ellingson
- 20<sup>th</sup> Kinzey Saarela
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Gary Schneekloth
- 24<sup>th</sup> Stacy Cavallero
- 26<sup>th</sup> Amy Dahl
- 27<sup>th</sup> Ethan Barthel
- 28<sup>th</sup> Gloria Larsen

### HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

#### 14<sup>th</sup> Ron & Lori Zellmann



# **ALC CALENDAR FEBRUARY 2025**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 8:15am Choir Practice 9:00am Worship Service with Communion 10:15am Sunday School	3 6:00pm Staff Meeting 7:00pm Trustee Meeting	4	5 5:00pm Family Night Supper 6:00pm Youth Group Grades K-6 6:00pm Confirmation Class 6:30pm Choir Practice 7:00pm Group Grades 7-12 8:00pm Deacon Meeting	6	7	8
9 9:00am Worship Service 10:15am Sunday School	10	11 8:15am Staff Meeting	12 9:30am Esther Circle 5:00pm Family Night Supper 6:00pm Confirmation Class 6:00pm Youth Group Grades K-6 7:00pm Group Grades 7-12 8:00pm Church Council Meeting	13	14	15
16 9:00am Worship Service with Communion 10:15am Sunday School 11:30 am Missions Committee Meeting	17 6:15pm Sarah Circle Singing at Meadow Place 7:00pm Sarah Circle Bible Study	Meeting	19 11:00am Newsletter Articles Due 5:00pm Family Night Supper 6:00pm Confirmation Class 6:00pm Youth Group Grades K-6 7:00pm Group Grades 7-12	20	21	22
<ul> <li>23</li> <li>8:30 am Youth &amp; Family Committee Meeting</li> <li>9:00am Worship Service</li> <li>10:00am Prayer at Altar after Service</li> <li>10:15am Sunday School</li> </ul>	24	25 8:15am Staff Meeting	26 5:00pm Potluck Family Night Supper Potluck 6:00pm Confirmation Class 6:00pm Youth Group Grades K-6 7:00pm Group Grades 7-12	27	28	