

# CHURCHYARD NEWS

**“Come to me all you who are weary and burdened, And I will give you rest.”**

***Matthew 11:28***



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## **Beloved in the Lord,**

How goes your Lent 2018? By the time this newsletter is published we will be approaching the midpoint of the season, and it will be an excellent time to assess the fruits of our discipline...or lack thereof. Have you persevered in the activities to which the Prayer Book invited us on Ash Wednesday — self examination and repentance, prayer, fasting, and self denial, and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word? If the answer's no, there's an easy

remedy. The reality of worshipping a God who loves us unconditionally includes a virtually unlimited number of second chances and new beginnings. And forgiveness available for sincerely being contrite and ready to attempt amendment of life.

Did you give something up for Lent? Something other than something you should do without anyway? One point of giving something up is to demonstrate that we are in charge rather than being subject to our appetites and possessions.

(Communicants in the Diocese of Fond du Lac get a pass on obsessions with the Packers, of course!) A second point of self denial, and the one

that hits home with me, is that giving something up creates a space that we can fill, indeed must fill, with something positive. It's not unlike the beginning of Christian living, Holy Baptism, where we renounce the world, the flesh, and the devil, creating a momentary void that Grace and the Holy Spirit rush in to fill.

Perhaps you've seen these words of counsel this Lent from Pope Francis; they speak eloquently of adding the positive:

Do you want to fast this Lent?

- \* Fast from hurting words and say kind words.
- \* Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.

- \* Fast from anger and be filled with patience.
- \* Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.
- \* Fast from worries and trust in God.
- \* Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.
- \* Fast from pressures and be prayerful.
- \* Fast from bitterness and fill your heart with joy.
- \* Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.
- \* Fast from grudges and be reconciled.
- \* Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.

May God bless you in your Lenten journey this year. See you in Church!  
Fr. Jim+

## Women's Ministry

*Mission: To meet in fellowship and love.  
To help others and support our church*

The Women's Ministry has not met for a few months because of our Transition Workshop's and small discussion groups.

We will have a meeting on Sunday, March 4<sup>th</sup> following the service. Some of the things we will talk about is talent for the Salad Luncheon & elections for 2018. We are asking all women of the church to make a salad for our 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Salad Luncheon on Sat. April 28<sup>th</sup>. Please hand in your recipe for your salad by Sunday, March 25<sup>th</sup>. Thank you!

Marie Schiltz-Secretary

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### This is the results of our Goal's Workshop from Sunday, February 25<sup>th</sup>

Develop and expand ministries to/with/ for children and young people.

- Need direction for developing curriculum
- First Communion, Confirmation
- Children's service/involvement in service
- Youth Group Development/activities-Teach leaders to facilitate

Sharing the Gospel, learn to evangelize-focus on ministry, education, evangelism leading to spiritual and numerical growth.

- Bring Gospel into context of today's world
- Be a part of the community
- Bring in community speakers/programs to our church
- Helping teach us how to invite others in (New growth in the neighborhood)
- Advertise the "new community member" of your community (meet & greet at the Bottle Room, wine & cheese event, cookout/campfire)
- Quote from John Richardson: Walks the Steps of Jesus, but speaks the talk of Today!
- To guide and teach us how to accomplish this
- Have an Evening Prayer on Saturday evening for people who are not churched or looking for a church
- Off-site, present in the community clergy such as: coffee house, pub or any establishment

Incorporate teaching of stewardship year round, inviting people to deepen lives of generosity and gratitude.

- Sermons, thru Scripture and invite us to go deeper in our thoughts
- Newsletter articles
- Guide & empower members & lay leader participation
- Teach
- Identify
- Model
- Lead

Develop and expand study/formation and ministry opportunities for adults

- Ability to identify gifts and resources within the community (parish & neighborhood)
- Expand adult programs beyond the traditional
- One who does not avoid conflict
- Ability to communicate and facilitate communication
- Ability & willingness to build relationships within the community
- One who is ecumenically & community oriented
- Ability & willingness to partner with parish community
- One who will make us passionate about our relationship with God

**Calendar:**  
**March & April**  
**2018**

**Birthdays:**

Mar 2: Marlene Zastrow

Mar 6: Bev Van Lanen

Mar 12: Jamee Boehm

Mar 17: Amy Schiltz

Mar 27: Emma Boehm

Mar 31: Ron Schiltz

Apr 5: Donald Valentine

Apr 6: Marion DeWitt

Apr 6: Sally Wright

Apr 10: Susie LaPointe

Apr 10: Jean McNamara

Apr 17: Beth Karsten

Apr 19: Pat Ross

Apr 23: Myra Valentine

Apr 23: Robert Zatrof

Apr 25: Randal Ragsdale

**Anniversaries:**

Mar 1: Craig &amp; Dawn Stelzer

Mar 13: John &amp; Jody Richardson

Mar 29: Ken &amp; Marianne Kurtenacker

**March:**

Fri Mar. 2-Fish Bake 4:30-6:30pm

Sun Mar. 4-Sunday Service/Sunday School-9:00am

Women's Ministry Meeting following Service

Wed Mar. 7-Memory Café-1:00-3:00pm

Stations of the Cross-5:30

Soup &amp; Bread-6:00pm &amp; Lenten Series -6:30pm

Sun. Mar. 11-Sunday Service/Sunday School-9:00am

Wed Mar. 14-Stations of the Cross-5:30

Soup &amp; Bread-6:00pm &amp; Lenten Series -6:30pm

Fri Mar. 16-Fish Bake 4:30-6:30pm

Sun. Mar. 18-Sunday Service/Sunday School-9:00am

Transition Team meeting-Vestry only

Tues. Mar. 20-Vestry Meeting - 5:00pm

Wed Mar. 21-Stations of the Cross-5:30

Soup &amp; Bread-6:00pm &amp; Lenten Series -6:30pm

Sun. Mar. 25-Palm Sunday Service/Sunday School-9:00am

Thurs. Mar. 29-Maundy Thursday Service-5:00pm

Fri Mar. 30-Good Friday Service-5:00pm

**April:**

Sun. Apr. 1-Easter Sunday Service/NO Sunday School-9:00am

Easter Egg Hunt following Service

Wed. Apr. 4-Memory Café - 1:00-3:00pm

Sun. Apr. 8-Sunday Service/Sunday School-9:00am

Sun. Apr. 15-Sunday Service/Sunday School-9:00am

Tues. Apr. 17-Vestry Meeting-5:00pm

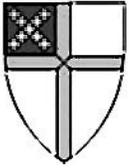
Fri. Apr. 20-Deadline for "Churchyard News" articles

Sun. Apr. 22-Sunday Service/Sunday School-9:00am

Sat. Apr. 28-21st Annual Salad Luncheon-12:00pm

Sun. Apr. 29-Sunday Service/Sunday School-9:00am

Fri. Apr. 20-Deadline for "Churchyard News" articles



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### **EPH February Update**

What does “home” mean to you? We have asked families served by our partnership the same question, “What does home mean to you?” For many of the families, the response included phrases related to family and love. But responses also included words related to safety, security, and peace of mind.

Safety, security, and peace of mind: these were the factors influencing EPH to move its storage of donated household goods and supplies out of the basements of our homes and into a separate location. Seventy percent (70%) of the families we serve have experienced some form of domestic violence and related trauma. By moving our storage from our homes and into a central location, we are providing our families with a greater sense of safety and security.

We have now combined the storage of consumable household goods with our office space at 200 South Monroe. This space is provided through the generosity of First United Methodist Church, one of EPH’s founding partnership churches. Once we are settled, we will have an open house and invite you for a tour.

In closing, two families have asked for prayers; please pray for the opportunity to bring a family together and for family health.