

GOOD TIDINGS OF PEACE

Volume: 41

Issue: 03

March 2024

March 28th is Maundy Thursday which we will celebrate with a Special Communion Service.

But what is a “Maundy”?

"Maundy" is the shortened form of the Latin word “mandatum” which means "a mandate or command."

John 13:34-35 “A new commandment I give you: Love one another. Just as I have loved you, so also you are to love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

Jesus, their Lord, had just washed the feet of all the disciples in humble service to them. He did this little act of service to draw their attention to what a huge service he would offer them in the next 20 hours of his life... going to the Cross.

Why Was this a “New Commandment” when we have always known the law of God requires us to “Love God above all and our neighbor as ourselves?”

This Command raised the definition of love to a new and higher standard. Jesus, the Son of God, washes the feet of 12 of his students. Jesus is in the process of sacrificially meeting their deepest need, that of washing their sins away. And Jesus EVEN loved His enemies!!

He calls us to a new level of love. “Love one another. Just as I have loved you.” It’s no longer enough to “love your neighbor as you love yourself.” Love for yourself isn’t anywhere near to the Love Christ has displayed!! Now you are commanded to “love your neighbor as much as Christ has loved you!”

Did you notice the switch from the selfish kind love of yourself to the sacrificial love for undeserving damnable sinners?

That also brings us to the celebration of the Lord’s Supper on Maundy Thursday. Yes, you could call it an “Anniversary” celebration as that is the night on which Christ Instituted this Sacrament. But, think diligently about this Sacrament and the “sacrificial love for undeserving damnable sinners” which is the New Level of Love we are commanded to have toward others.

When Jesus took the Old Testament Passover Meal which was done in remembrance of Israel's deliverance from slavery and death in Egypt and he Instituted it as the New Testament Sacrament to be done "in remembrance of me", he gives us the very body and blood of his Sacrificial Love in order to carry out this Higher Level of Love.

Maundy Thursday brings with it the Mandate, the Command, to Love at a Higher Level, the Level of Christ's Sacrifice. And with receiving the Lord's Supper, Christ gives us the Meal which empowers us to be able to carry out his command.

Jesus not only gives us the command but Jesus also gives us the ability to carry it out!

Jesus concludes with, "By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." (John 13:35) Christian Love is love at a higher level - the level of Christ. Your Unity with His Sacrifice elevates you to that level. So, the Reception of Christ's Body and Blood strengthens you and keeps you able to carry out His New Command:

Love one another. Just as I have loved you.

~Announcements~

Baby Bottle Campaign for New Life

The baby bottle campaign for Northwoods New Life Resources wraps up March 3. Thanks to everyone who filled a bottle or donated online. New Life is a pro-life pregnancy counseling center right here in Hayward--and the only one in Sawyer County. Your donations may have helped save a life!

Send One Sister to Sioux Falls

Have you ever heard of the Send One Sister program? It's one of the ways the Lutheran Women's Missionary Society (LWMS) encourages attendance at its national convention, which this year will be in Sioux Falls, South Dakota June 27-30. To support Send One Sister, our Northwest Wisconsin LWMS Circuit offers a \$500 stipend to help defray expenses for a woman attending convention for the first time. That woman could be you! To learn how to apply and how to register for convention, talk to circuit president Paula Bilitz or LWMS reporter for Peace, Lois Mueller. Early bird registration ends April 1.

Easter Brunch

Once again the Lutheran Ladies of Peace (LLP) will host brunch following the 9:30 Easter Sunday service March 31. You can sign up to donate menu items on the sheet posted on the bulletin board. Donations of kitchen supplies such as coffee, powdered creamer, sugar, large and small paper plates and paper towel also are welcome. Thank you!

Save the Date - LWMS Spring Rally

The NW Wisconsin LWMS Spring Rally will be held, Saturday, April 27th at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church in Spring Valley. Times will be shared as more information becomes available.

Our speaker will be Pastor Robert Newman, our Synod's expert on Ukraine. Mission money can be directed to Lois Mueller by March 31st. Checks should be made payable to LWMS.

If you are interested in attending, please contact Lois Mueller. Ride sharing will be available.



SAVE THE DATES (FROM LLP):

3.17.2024 - Befriend a Mission Sunday - brownie bake off!

04.27.2024 - LWMS Spring Rally - reach out to join us for a morning or mission updates/education and fun!

04.28.2024 - Spring LLP meeting to include 1) Assess LLP officer terms, and 2) vote for officers for the LWMS International Board.

05.11.2024 - LLP to clean closet and file cabinets in prep for 40th - all help appreciated

BAM Brownie Bake-off

Sunday, March 17th we will be celebrating our Befriend a Mission (BAM) assignments with a special worship service and fellowship

We invite everyone to participate in our BAM Brownie Bake-off!

Bring your favorite brownies to share during fellowship and the “taste testers” will vote which brownies are the “Best of the Bake-off” by making a monetary contribution for their favorite brownies. Proceeds will go to the missionary families. A sign-up sheet will be posted on the bulletin board.

Let's have fun and make this a great event!



March 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 Bible Study 8:30 am Worship Service 9:30 am Fellowship 10:30 am	4	5	6 Lent Worship 4:30 pm	7	8	9
10 Daylight Saving Time Bible Study 8:30 am Worship Service 9:30 am Fellowship 10:30 am	11 Outreach Committee 4:30 pm Church Council 6:00 pm	12	13 Lent Worship 4:30 pm	14	15	16
17 Bible Study 8:30 am Worship Service 9:30 am BAM Brownie Bake-off 10:30 am	18	19	20 Lent Worship 4:30 pm	21	22	23
24 Palm Sunday Bible Study 8:30 am Worship Service 9:30 am Fellowship 10:30 am	25	26	27	28 Maundy Thursday 4:30 pm worship	29 Good Friday 4:30 pm worship	30
31 Easter Bible Study 8:30 am Worship Service 9:30 am Easter Brunch 11:00am		EVENTS		Befriend a Mission (BAM) Brownie Bake-off March 17th		Easter Sunday Brunch March 31st