

Lebanon Lutheran Church March Newsletter 2021

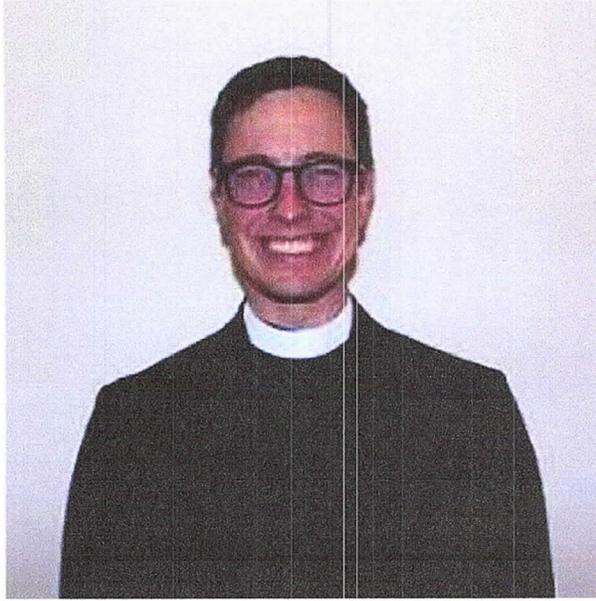
Sunday School 9:30am
10120 Middle Road
Phone: (540)465-5456

Worship 11:00am
Lebanon Church Va. 22641
Email: pastor.lebanon@gmail.com



NALC

North American Lutheran Church



Pastor Christopher Porter

A Message From The Desk Of The Pastor

Proverbs 4:23 (ESV): 23 Keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it flow the springs of life.

Matthew 15:18–20 (ESV): 18 But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this defiles a person. 19 For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander. 20 These are what defile a person.

Talking with a friend recently and we stumbled into familiar territory, mulling over the week's frustrations and annoyances. This then led to a discussion about a particular person inundating him with information about the political debacle *du jour*, which led to his rather emphatic declaration, "I work hard not to let all that stuff in, I *don't want to hear it!*"

I nodded and experienced a small rush of sympathy, "Yeah, soul care is a real thing. And it's important."

The term, *soul care*, refers to the fundamentally Biblical and Christian conviction that we need to have barriers between ourselves and the world around us; barriers that guard our hearts, or what amounts to the same thing, our *souls*.

In Christian thought, the heart is no mere physical organ, it is the living center of a person's entire being. For this reason, it is often synonymous with the soul, and the Scriptures counsel and command that we should "keep" or "guard" it from too much influence from ungodly or worldly influence.

The Bible teaches that human creatures are very permeable, they may take in influence from the "outside" in their surroundings – these influences may be positive or negative. Hence, we should be careful to oversee and limit the worldly influences that so often surround us, to the best of our ability. Simply put, we are under no obligation to absorb every disturbing idea or event that occurs in the world, we are obligated to curate or *care* for our souls through actions that limit the worldly and are open to the spiritual.

We hear it often, "little children are like sponges, they absorb everything going on around them". This is true, but that sponge-like capacity doesn't disappear when we hit whatever marker we believe determines our adulthood. We protect children from undue harmful influence, as we should, but so too should we have a care for our own spiritual wellbeing.

I can hear possible objections: "but Pastor, some truths *are* disturbing... we can't simply become ostriches and look away from every possibly negative thing." This is true, the truth often disturbs and disorients, as does God's Law when it is applied to sinners. But then again, if we're honest, we're far more open to the unsubstantiated claim, to the merely *interesting* tidbit of information, than we are to hard truths. Jesus calls us away from such interest, from fascination with worldly events and titillating details.

Our age is characterized by an overabundance of every sort of information. We have endless prods to our curiosity and to our desire to have our ears tickled. Spiritual sanity isn't to be found in satisfying every last interest, every juicy possibility, every enervating bit of gossip. Being thoroughly involved in these sorts of passion enflaming activities, we may find we have little time for the activities that actually tend to peace and stillness – that tend to *sanity* and a well-disposed heart.

This Lent, I propose that the Church consider abstaining from some things and more fully engaging in others. If we really believe that Christ is the Way, the Truth, and

the Life, and all of these superabundantly and truly, then we should focus more on the things of Christ and His Church and less on the things of the world.

Propositions:

1. Abstain from or significantly limit exposure to social media. We know that it is the realm of hotheads and “trolls” or every sort. Not to mention the presence of explicitly anti-Christian forces. Too much is sure to draw our hearts into imbalance and into passion of one sort or another.
2. Same for the “24 hour news cycle”. If our mental and spiritual diet is murder, weather, and political rancor, for hours on end, how likely are we to be blessed as the peacemakers that Jesus tells us about in the beatitudes?
3. Make and observe boundaries for everyday conversation. When an acquaintance or loved one wants to fight about the heated issue of the day, and doesn’t seem interested in an actual discussion, bow out. There is no shame in doing so and there is much wisdom. Read the Proverbs or James about the danger of unguarded speech and the blessings of careful speech.
4. Go to a pleasant place to be alone, in silence. The removal of external pressures may serve as initial balm to a wounded heart.
5. Seek out the conversation of mature Christians (this is not always a characteristic of age). Other Christians are a blessing that God gives to assist his children in many important ways.
6. Read Scripture more than you read newsfeeds. The Word is clean and refreshing for the soul, where the contentions of the day are withering.
7. Confess your sins: to God, to a neighbor you have wronged, to a fellow Christian of sufficient maturity, to your pastor when you are terribly upset. There are few better cures for the pride of life than acknowledging your sins with your lips.
8. Go to the Holy Communion as often as you can, and if you feel a need for it, ask your pastor to make it available. The body and blood of our Lord are the best medicine, rampart, fortress, and hiding place for our beleaguered souls. There is life and genuine rest in our Lord’s means of grace.

Prayerfully,
Pastor Porter

Coming Events at Lebanon

Sunday School Class led by Rev. J.D. is meeting at 9:30 on Sunday mornings at church. If you are unable to join us at church it is also available via Zoom.

***Please see Rev. J.D. for Zoom access info.**

Come and join the Outreach Committee. We will meet Thursday, March 11th @ 6:00 PM

.....
Congregational Meeting Sunday, March 14th @ 1:00

Do you or someone you know need a ride to Church?

Please contact:

Ann Deming

@ (540)869-5795

And leave a message.

Lenten Soup Suppers

Every Wednesday starting @ 6pm bring your own sandwich. Soup will be provided, if you would like to provide soup please see Joy for dates available.

Lenten Services to begin at 7 pm

The Reading Revelation as a Responsible Christian

Class meets on Monday's @ 7 pm Via Zoom

Led by Pastor Chris. All are invited to attend.

**See Pastor Chris for Zoom access info.*

For any comments or suggestions on the newsletter please contact Sheri Hamman

Cell: (540) 333-0249

Email:

jhamman@shentel.net

March Birthday's

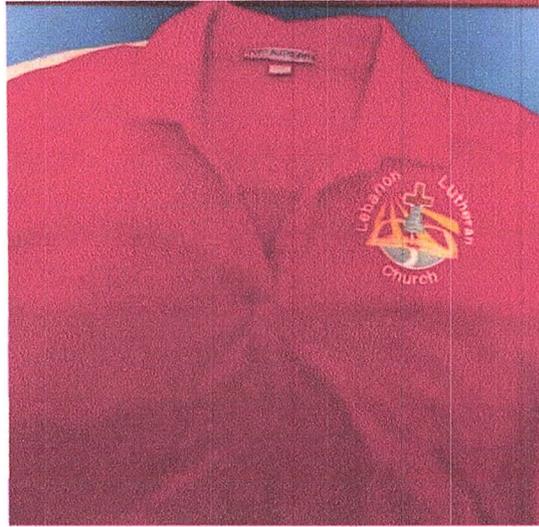
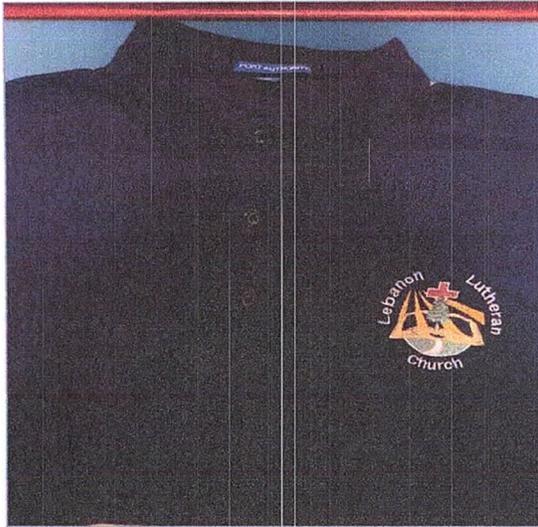
*1st Annie Clem
1st Madison Wright
3rd Missy Hockman
9th Gene Atwell
9th John Miller
10th Mark Smoot
10th Ryan Smoot
13th Karla Funkhouser
16th Jay Snow
20th Dorothy Harriman
25th Mike Rose
29th Luke Heird*

CREDO Class

Class meets every other Thursday @ 7 pm at the Church

Led by Pastor Chris. All are invited to attend.

**See Pastor Chris for CREDO info*

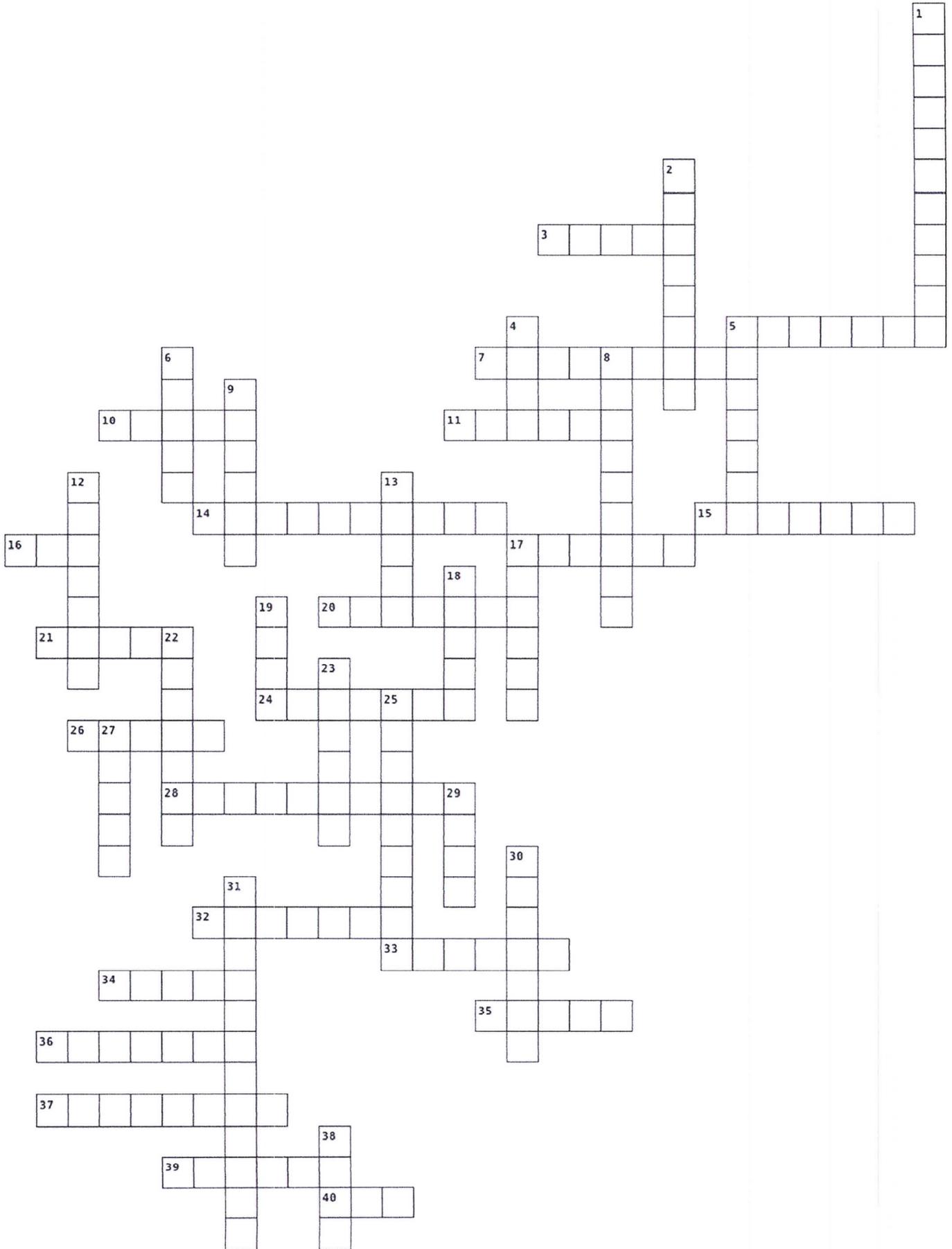


Polo shirts with Lebanon Church Logo are in!! If you ordered a shirt, you can pick up your shirt at the church. If you are unable to pick up your shirt, please let us know and we will arrange for your shirt to be delivered to you. If you did not order a shirt and would like a shirt, please contact Jeff Hamman at (540) 220-7346 and one can be ordered for you. They are available in navy blue & red and are available in men's & women's sizes.



Work is completed on the installation of a holding tank for the septic system at the church. Lines will be installed in warmer weather.

1 Chronicles



1 Chronicles

Across

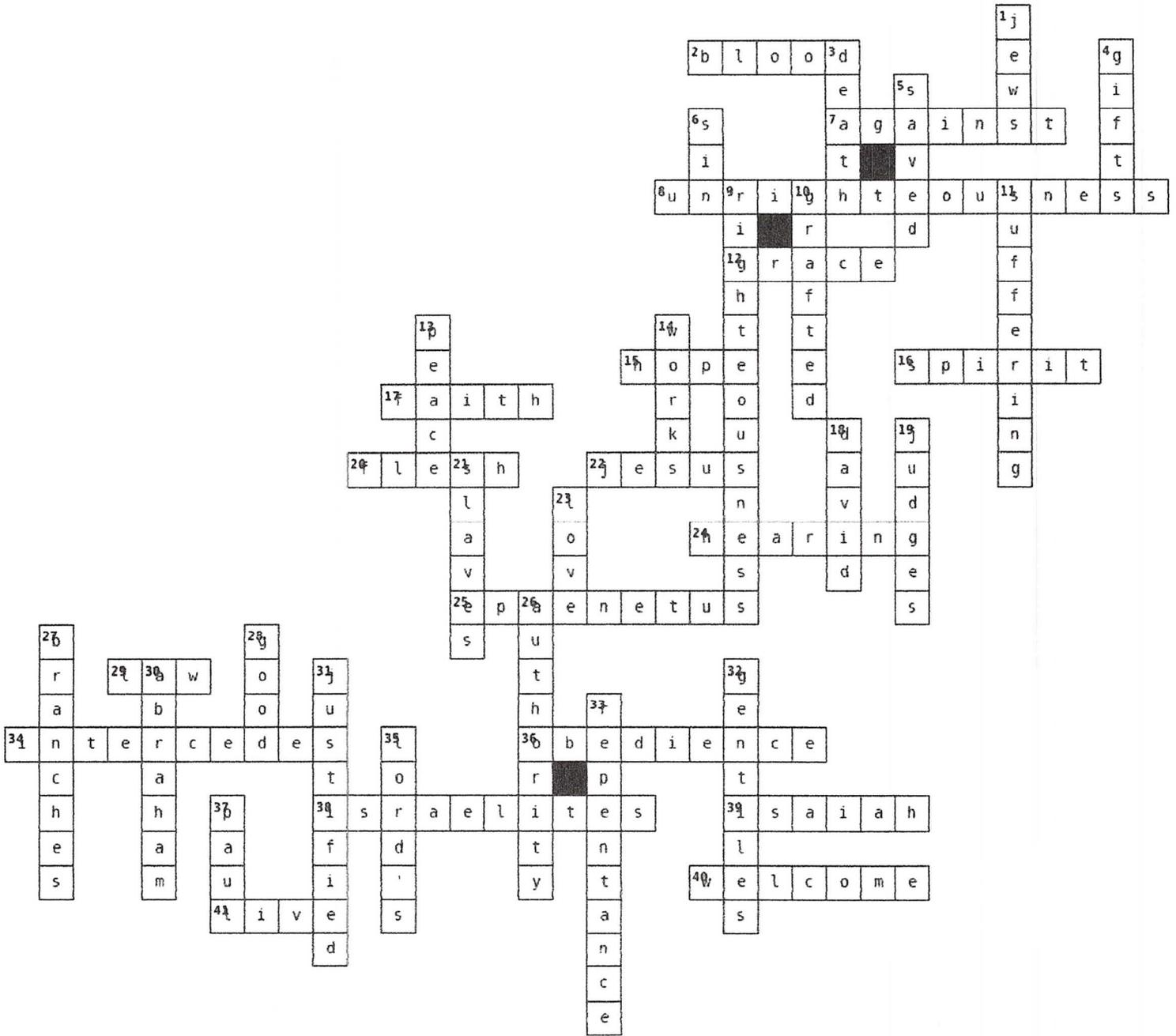
3. His sons were given the cities of refuge? (6)
5. David commanded the chiefs of the Levites to appoint their brothers to be this? (15)
7. The twelfth lot of musicians fell upon _____ and his sons and brothers. (25)
10. She was the sister of Beriah, Ishvi, Imnah and Ishvah? (7)
11. God tells David to go around and come against the Philistines opposite of what trees? (14)
14. Satan incites David to number Israel, and for this God brings this against Israel. (21)
15. Berechiah and _____ were to be gatekeepers for the ark. (15)
16. His descendants lived in the land of Bashan as far as Salecah? (5)
17. Abraham was his son? (1)
20. They lived in the kings service at Netaim and Gederah. (4)
21. For God will give Solomon _____ and quiet in his days. (22)
24. When the ark of God remained in Obed-Edom's house, the Lord did this to his household? (13)
26. Hezron, Gedor, Bethlehem and Ashhur are all descendants of whom? (4)
28. He was the kings counselor. (27)
32. Jada and _____ are sons of Onam. (2)
33. She despised David in her heart because he danced and celebrated the ark being moved to the city of David. (15)
34. The first born son of David? (3)
35. Because the Lord of Host was with him he became greater and greater. (11)
36. Only they may carry the ark of God. (15)
37. The Philistines came from him? (1)
39. God refers to David not as a king but as this. (17)
40. Jehoshaphat was his son? (3)

Down

1. Shallum, Akkub, Talmon, Ahiman and their kinsmen were this? (9)
2. He had three sons Bela, Becher and Jediel. (7)
4. Kish was the father of this king. (8)
5. He was chief officer in charge of the treasuries. (26)
6. The number of years David reigns over Israel. (29)
8. They became a stench to David. (19)
9. He had sixteen sons and six daughters. (4)
12. Their faces were like faces of lions. (12)
13. David tells Solomon to serve God with a whole _____. (28)
17. Reuben lost his birthright to this son of Israel? (5)
18. He died childless. (2)
19. He was over the army of Israel. (18)
22. "More Chief men were found among the sons of _____ than among the sons of Ithamar." (24)
23. All these men of war came here to make david king over all Israel. (12)
25. After sending his wives away, he fathered sons in the country of Moab. (8)
27. Because he put his hand to the ark, the Lord struck him down. (13)
29. Moses and his sons were named among this tribe. (23)
30. He strikes down Lahmi, the brother of Goliath. (20)
31. This was to be sung to the Lord by Asaph and his brothers. (16)
38. The Philistines cut this off of Saul and put it in the temple of the dragon. (10)

All answers are in the first book of Chronicles chapters are in parenthesis. Questions are formed from the ESV. Bible.

Romans



Across

- 2. By this of Jesus we have been justified. (5)
- 7. "If God is for us, who can be _____ us." (8)
- 8. Men suppress the truth by this. (1)
- 12. This is a gift from God. (3)
- 15. By the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in this? (15)
- 16. Set your mind on this and have life and peace. (8)
- 17. The righteous live by this? (1)

Down

- 1. They were entrusted with the oracles of God. (3)
- 3. Sin produces this? (7)
- 4. Although we are one body in Christ individually we have these that differ? (12)
- 5. "For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be _____." (10)
- 6. This was in the world before the law. (5)
- 9. "Abraham believed God, and it was counted to

20. If you live by this you will die. (8)
22. He calls Paul to be an apostle. (1)
24. "So faith comes from _____, and hearing through the word of Christ." (10)
25. The first convert to Christ in Asia. (16)
29. This is binding on a person only as long as he lives. (7)
34. The Spirit does this for us as we pray. (8)
36. Christ accomplished through Paul to bring the gentiles to this? (15)
38. "To them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises." (9)
39. This prophet cries out concerning Israel that only a remnant will be saved? (9)
40. For the one who is weak in faith we are to _____ him. (14)
41. "Now if we have died with Christ, we believe we will also _____ with him." (6)
- him as _____." (4)
10. "Branches were broken off so that I might be _____ in." (11)
11. This produces endurance. (5)
13. "Grace to you and _____ from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ." (1)
14. God counts righteousness apart from this? (4)
18. According to the flesh Jesus was descended from whom? (1)
19. "God _____ the secrets of men by Christ Jesus." (2)
21. We are to present ourselves as this to righteousness leading to sanctification. (6)
23. To fulfill the law one must _____ another (13)
26. Only from God this is given? (13)
27. If the root is holy so are these. (11)
28. We are to overcome evil with this? (12)
30. He grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God? (4)
31. The doers of the law will be _____. (2)
32. Salvation has come to this people to make Israel jealous. (11)
33. God's kindness is meant to lead you to this. (2)
35. "So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the _____." (14)
37. He writes the book of Romans? (1)
-



Lebanon Lutheran Church



North American Lutheran Church
NAALC

March 2021						Apr 2021 ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 7:00 Reading Revelations as a Responsible Christian	2	3 11:00 Communion Service 6:00 Lenten Soup Supper 7:00 Vesper Service	4 7:00 CREDO Class	5	6
7 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Service	8 7:00 Reading Revelations as a Responsible Christian	9	10 11:00 Communion Service 6:00 Lenten Soup Supper 7:00 Vesper Service	11 6:00 Outreach Meeting 7:00 Church Council Meeting	12	13
14 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Service 1:00 Congregational Meeting	15 7:00 Reading Revelations as a Responsible Christian	16	17 11:00 Communion Service 6:00 Lenten Soup Supper 7:00 Vesper Service	18 7:00 CREDO Class	19	20
21 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Service	22 7:00 Reading Revelations as a Responsible Christian	23	24 11:00 Communion Service 6:00 Lenten Soup Supper 7:00 Vesper Service	25	26	27
28 Palm Sunday 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Service	29 7:00 Reading Revelations as a Responsible Christian	30	31 11:00 Communion Service 6:00 Lenten Soup Supper 7:00 Vesper Service	NOTE: Pastor Porter will be available on Wednesdays 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm for Individual Communion. Please call for appointment.		