

Lebanon Lutheran Church February 2024 Newsletter

Worship Service 8:30 am

Sunday School 9:30 am

Worship Service 11:00 am

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NALC

North American Lutheran Church

A Message From The Desk Of The Pastor



What's this funny word on the bulletins all about? Gesimas, what are they? This coming Sunday brings churches that observe the traditional Western calendar into "Gesimatide", or as it is more prosaically known, "Pre-Lent".

The term is Latin, as many traditional things of the Church are, and means "day" or "days" in the plural, and is pronounced "geh-sima" or "jeh-sima". The prefixes -septua, sexa, quinqu, quad – all refer to the number of days before Easter Season begins: 70, 60, 50, and then the 40 days of Lent. The numbers are inexact, as the actual number of

days in each period varies, but the groupings are considered "decades" or units of ten, and have more symbolic than literal value.

Historically, the variation in counting the days has to do with how many days are considered fasts. In some places the Sundays were counted as fasts, most were not. In some monastic orders Thursdays were fasts. Over time, these differences were smoothed out and a more uniform accounting developed.

Preparing for the Preparation

The term "Pre-Lent" develops due to the varying length of the fasts observed in the Church: should there be a forty day fast, or fifty, or perhaps even 70 (for clergy and monastics especially)? As we now have it, the majority of the church observes a 40 day fast for Lent proper, and special Sunday readings that are meant to be the means of the Spirit for preparing the Church for its Lenten devotions.

The Epistle for Septuagesima, the first Sunday in Pre-Lent, begins:

24 Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. 25 Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. (1 Cor 9:24-25)

This is the theme for the period; press on, gear up, exert yourself! It is a reminder that though our salvation is secure *in Christ*, it is not secure *in us*, at least it isn't when we don't endeavor to

persevere in the faith and exercise that same faith by doing the things of the Spirit. Christian life isn't something performed by an autopilot, and our wills are involved in living this life. It is of course entirely true that our works do not save us, and our will to salvation isn't enough to be saved. And yet, our works result from that "ever active" Christ-given and Spirit-driven reality that is genuine faith. There are no spiritual couch potatoes in the Church of God that are not also in spiritual peril!

Pre-Lent is a time to focus on our true condition before God: sinful and in need of grace, yet also redeemed to participate in the life of grace. It is an excellent time to plan for increased or renewed devotions when Lent arrives. Will you plan to fast on certain occasions, or with regularity, according to a schedule? Will you take up a new prayer devotion? Will you set aside a specific time or times of each day for prayer and Scripture reading? Will you give additional alms to the church or to a worthy charity? Will you ask pastor for an edifying book to read on Christian living or doctrine? Will you meet with the pastor for individual Confession and Absolution? Will you visit the sick and lonely to bring a word of Gospel comfort? Will you do all of the above? Take some time, drink deeply from the Sunday readings, let the Spirit attune you to your spiritual growing edges, and to the needs of your fellow believers. Map out a strategy, make a plan. The great Quadragesima is coming, the forty days of wilderness time with our gracious Lord Jesus. He is our great pioneer and perfecter of the faith. He will lead us in the way of the cross all the way to the day of Resurrection.

We have a ready-made opportunity for increased devotion in the Wednesday Communion Services. These Services will either observe a weekday commemoration of one of the heroes of the faith (the saints), or focus on a particular doctrine of the faith. The Service is simpler than our normal Sunday Worship and is spoken. We are using an older order, the Common Service.

We will also observe the Great Litany on Thursday afternoons (3pm) in Pre-Lent. The Litany was one of Luther's favorite Services, and is an excellent way to offer prayer for all manners of people.

During Lent proper, we will have our Wednesday Evening Prayer Services (Vespers) at 7pm. If you haven't yet attended one of these in past years, you should! They are beautiful Services of hymns, readings, prayers, canticles, and a little litany – come and sing to the Lord!

Let us focus, together as Christ's beloved people, and attend to the Spirit of God as He prepares and strengthens us for the glorious Easter Day!

Prayerfully,

Pastor Porter

Events at Lebanon

*Neighborhood
Watch Meeting
Tuesday, February
20th @ 7:00 PM*

*Women's Meeting
Thursday, February
22nd @ 7:00 PM*

*Men's Prayer Breakfast
Saturday, February 10th
@ 8:00 AM @ Queen
Street Diner*

**Sunday School Class led by
Chris Heird is at 9:30 Sunday**

Christian Education

**Children's/Elementary
Sunday School Classes led
by Leslie Heird, Dorothy
Harriman and Missy
Hockman is at 9:30 Sunday**

Wednesday's

8:15 AM Matins

*10:00 AM Individual
Confession & Absolution*

1:30 PM Communion

**See Calendar for Vesper
Service/Lenten Vespers*

Sunday Church Services

*8:30 AM Divine
Service (spoken)*

*11:00 AM Divine
Service (music)*

Choir Practice

*Choir will practice
Thursday, February 1st
and Thursday, February
15th @ 7:00 PM*

**See Evelyn if interested in
joining the Choir*

February Birthday's

1st Brittany Wright

5th Madison Estep

7th Mary Artz

8th Billy Hockman

9th Brenda Hockman

12th Evelyn Williams

13th Joy Cutlip

15th Carolyn Hitt

20th Kristin Hamman

25th Cornelia Skinner

27th Eli Heird

*If you would like to send
Orville Deming a note, he
would enjoy hearing from you.*

Orville Deming

1603 Minebank Road

Middletown, VA 22645

Flowers For Sunday Morning Worship

*If you would like to provide
flowers, please see Dorothy
Harriman (540)409-6470*



SHROVE TUESDAY

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Tuesday, February 13th from 4 pm - 7 pm @ the Lebanon Church Community Center. Come out, bring a friend(s) and enjoy an evening of Fellowship and Food. **FREE WILL OFFERING** will be accepted, which will benefit J. J. Peterson to assist with his medical needs.

Menu to include: Pancakes, Eggs, Sausage, Sausage Gravy, Applesauce, Peaches, Hot Cinnamon Applesauce, Coffee and Juices.



Reaching **OUT** Thru Outreach



FOOD DRIVE

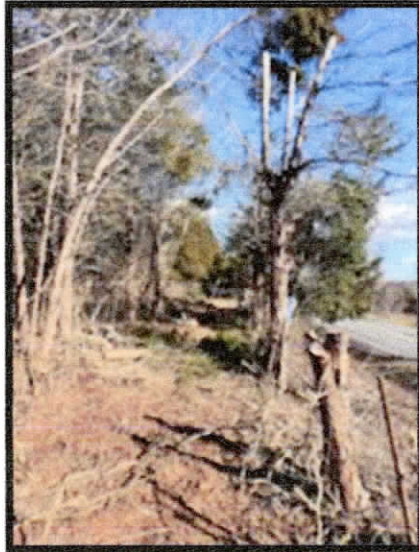
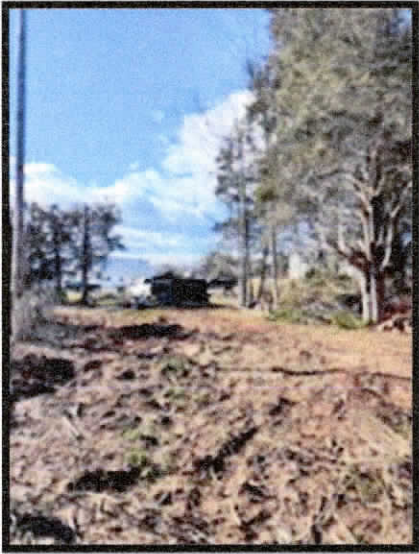
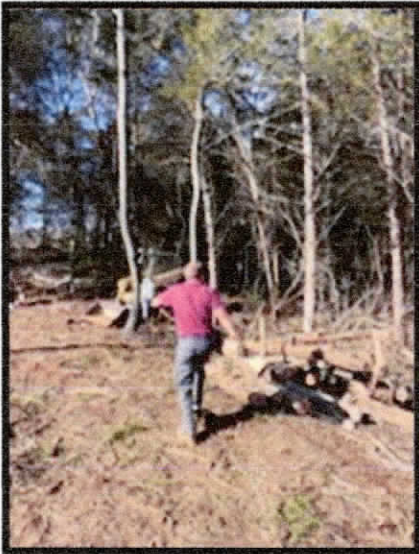
We will be having a Food Drive for the month of February. All items collected will be donated to the Compassion Cupboard (no glass please). There is also a list below of items that Compassion Cupboard is in need of each month. Thank you for your support to help families in need in our community.

Compassion Cupboard Monthly Needs For 2024

Below is a list of items which are needed each month and distributed to those in need in our community. You can bring them to church and place them in the basket. (No glass please - jars, etc.)

Jan.	Bar Bath Soap – Canned Chicken	July	Bar Soap – Hamburger Helper
Feb.	Hamburger Helper – Dish Detergent	Aug.	Small Laundry Detergent – Canned Chicken
Mar.	Canned Pasta – Instant Potatoes	Sept.	Rice a Roni – Pasta Meal Kits – Toilet Paper
Apr.	Ramen Noodles – Toilet Paper	Oct.	Salt – Pepper – Dish Detergent
May	Pork n Beans – Toothpaste – Toothbrush	Nov.	Instant Potatoes – Gravy Mix – Canned Gravy – Broth
June	Tea Bags – Coffee – Mayonnaise	Dec.	Soup – Saltine Crackers

Church Lot Clean-Up.....Thank You to all that helped!



The Genealogy of Jesus back to Adam; Luke 3:23-38 part 1 of 2

J T D A V I D V Z I R E N E N L I V E L
 E O N A S R J O D A J O S M K N N B J N
 R V S H A N N E M T G C E L D X P S M M
 A S D E F H M A T T H A T G I J K A Y A
 N B V K P L X Z T M E L E A O A A E M T
 B G H J N H E L I C E F L E U T C K A T
 N N T W Z J K U I J S L S U H R B O T A
 I N I A N N A J B E H L C G G Y R H T T
 E N Y U I O P K L T R E V H L M O P A H
 M E L M A D A M N U K O Y B I I E E T A
 E Z H P E S O J B P E P H G Y R Z S H P
 S N S I M E O N M J E N A N A O J O I H
 N P B X R J E N V E Z N B M K J H J A J
 C O S A M A A H D S N A H T A N M O S J
 Q Z E P K H G U V U R H E S A O P H S O
 B N M U U G L O P S L L E I T L A E H S
 B N U M I J O S E C H E J P A H V H O H
 N H E L I E Z E R C L B B C J N X Z R U
 I W Q K P K Z H A D U J N A C O M N B A
 V H C X Z A L S D F G H J K B L N Q W E
 R T C Y U I E E L I A K I M O B P A Z X
 C V B L C S V J O B E B J C L V U N M K
 Y C H T E O I M A T T H A T B U I R M V
 C G H J K M L O P V I A G G A N B K E N
 A D D I M A T T A T H I A S H B O Y C Z

The Genealogy of Jesus is in correct order from Jesus back to David. Some names of the fathers are listed more than once and are also hidden in the puzzle more than once, as to keep the Genealogy of Jesus in correct order. Next month in part two of the word find we will finish the Genealogy of Jesus starting with the father of David, Jesse, and going on to Adam and then God.

- | | | | |
|---------------|----------------|-------------|--------------|
| 1) JESUS | 12) ESLI | 23) NERI | 34) SIMEON |
| 2) JOSEPH | 13) NAGGAI | 24) MELCHI | 35) JUDAH |
| 3) HELI | 14) MAATH | 25) ADDI | 36) JOSEPH |
| 4) MATTHAT | 15) MATTATHIAS | 26) COSAM | 37) JONAM |
| 5) LEVI | 16) SEMEIN | 27) ELMADAM | 38) ELIAKIM |
| 6) MELCHI | 17) JOSECH | 28) ER | 39) MELEA |
| 7) JANNAI | 18) JODA | 29) JOSHUA | 40) MENNA |
| 8) JOSEPH | 19) JOANAN | 30) ELIEZER | 41) MATTATHA |
| 9) MATTATHIAS | 20) RHESA | 31) JORIM | 42) NATHAN |
| 10) AMOS | 21) ZERUBBABEL | 32) MATTHAT | 43) DAVID |
| 11) NAHUM | 22) SHEALTIEL | 33) LEVI | |



Lebanon Lutheran Church



February 2024						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			January 31st 8:15 Matins 10:00 Individ. Confession 1:30 Communion Service 5:30 Vesper Service 7:00 Deacon Training	1 7:00 Choir Practice	2	3
4 8:30 Divine Service 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Divine Service *Sexagesima	5 10:00 Judges Bible Study	6 11:00 The Maynard Service (Greenfield)	7 8:15 Matins 10:00 Individ. Confession 1:30 Communion Service 5:30 Vesper Service 7:00 Deacon Training	8 6:00 Outreach Meeting 7:00 Council Meeting	9	10 8:00 Men's Prayer Breakfast @ Queen Street Diner
11 8:30 Divine Service 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Divine Service *Quinquagesima	12 10:00 Judges Bible Study	13 Shrove Tuesday 11:00 The Maynard Service (Greenfield) 4:00 Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper 7:00 Shrove Tuesday Corporate Confession & Absolution	14 Ash Wednesday 8:15 Matins – Imposition of Ashes 3:00 Imposition of Ashes 7:00 Imposition of Ashes & Holy Communion	15 7:00 Choir Practice	16	17
18 8:30 Divine Service 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Divine Service *Lent 1	19 10:00 Judges Bible Study	20 11:00 The Maynard Service (Greenfield) 7:00 Neighborhood Watch Meeting	21 8:15 Matins 10:00 Individ. Confession 1:30 Communion Service 6:00 Lent Soup Supper 7:00 Lenten Vespers	22 7:00 Women's Meeting	23	24
25 8:30 Divine Service 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Divine Service *Lent 2	26 10:00 Judges Bible Study	27 11:00 The Maynard Service (Greenfield)	28 8:15 Matins 10:00 Individ. Confession 1:30 Communion Service 6:00 Lent Soup Supper 7:00 Lenten Vespers	29		