



## February 2018 Newsletter

*The Discipleship Chat*

### The Season of Sacrifice

Lent seems to be viewed as the season of sacrifice. We often hear people speak of “giving something up for Lent.” Lent is, of course, the season during which we specifically focus upon Jesus’ great sacrifice of His life as full payment for our sins. His sacrifice is the centerpiece of Lent, indeed, of the whole Christian faith.

Nowhere does the Bible say that we *have* to give something up or make a sacrifice for Lent. In fact, the Scriptures tell us that we are freed from Laws in order that we may have the freedom to choose to serve God. We are *not forced* to make any sacrifices. That way, any sacrifices we do make will come from our hearts and be God-pleasing. In the New Testament, a *sacrifice* is something we desire to do for God, as our response to Him for His great love for us. God does not *require* sacrifice; however, He is pleased with it.

Perhaps you wish to give something up for Lent, to help your focus on the cross. Maybe you would like to give something, add something into your life or schedule, to help that focus. However you treat it, let Lent be your special ‘**Cross-walk**’ this year.

As always, we offer special Lenten worship opportunities on Wednesday evenings, in the Chapel at 7 pm. The Theme for this year’s Midweek worship will be “**Seven Last Words.**” We’ll take a closer look at the seven times that Jesus is recorded in the Gospels as speaking from the cross.

Lent begins this year with Ash Wednesday on February 14. That’s less than two weeks away. It’ll be an early Easter, too (April 1). Together, let us lift high the cross.

-Pastor Dave

Everywhere we go, we go as a witness to the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. But what does it mean to be a witness? Can my witness be used to help someone believe? How can I be a witness to people who really don't seem to care about the church or the faith?

This year's Theological Conference will give biblical insight into our calling as witnesses of the Gospel, as well as practical advice on how to do so. Whether you are a lay member of the congregation or a professional leader in the church, you will gain insights as you join others in this amazing growth opportunity.

## Take Heart, Take Action

2018 Michigan District Theological Conference  
Saturday, February 24, 2018  
Our Savior Lutheran Church  
7910 E St Joe Hwy  
Lansing MI 48917

Early bird registration is \$20/general admission and \$15/student until February 1, 2018. After February 1, the price goes up to \$25/general admission and \$20/student.



## Lent 2018

Seven Last Words

Exploring the words that Jesus spoke  
while crucified on the cross.

Wed nights, 7 pm in the Gloria Christi Chapel  
**Lent begins** on February 14th with our Ash Wednesday services.

## Mark Your Calendars

**February Elders' meeting**– February 6th

**Steven Ministry Meeting** Tuesday, February 6th

**Quilt Group** February 12th at 1pm

**Women's Venue**, Tuesday, February 13th at Saddleback BBQ

**Ash Wednesday** (beginning of Lent) February 14th

**February Council** meeting– February 18

**Men's Venue**, Tuesday, February 20th, Draft House, Dewitt

## Lansing Matinee Musicale Wednesday, February 6th at 1pm.

Gail Lytle Lira, pianist, will perform Spanish Songs and Dances by Isaac Albeniz, Enrique Granados, Federico Mompou and Claude Debussy. Ellen Hoard, vocalist, Dave Sincox, vocalist and Jeff Richards, pianist, will perform Selections from the Great American Songbook.

## LWML ANN ARBOR ZONE PRAYER SERVICE

**Saturday**, February 10, 2018 - MOST Ministries office.

All women are welcome to attend the Ann Arbor Zone prayer service on Saturday, February 10, 2018 at the MOST Ministries office, 655 Phoenix Dr; Ann Arbor MI 48108. Registration will be from 9-9:30 a.m. Baked goods and coffee will be provided. Service is from 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Pastor Mikkelson, zone counselor, will be leading the service. From 10:30-11 a.m. there will be a presentation and tour of the MOST Ministries offices and operations. For more information, visit [mostministries.org](http://mostministries.org). Sign up to car pool on the kiosk or bulletin board.

**Regarding the rest of winter weather** worship: Pastor Dave says that on Sunday mornings he will be here regardless of the weather. But we want you to be safe. If a storm is still raging on a Sunday morning, the parking lot may not be clear. Be cautious. Be Safe. But we'll be here.

**Our Savior Lutheran Church** EARLY CHILDHOOD ENROLLMENT OPEN HOUSE: Come join us for our Early Childhood & Kindergarten Open House on Thursday, February 8th from 5-7pm as we begin our enrollment for the 2018-19 school year! Meet the teachers and staff, visit the classrooms, and enjoy a tour of our school. Activities for the children will be provided. Please feel free to share this information with your family and friends!

**Join us next Sunday** after the worship service for an All Church Potluck. See the sign up sheet on the kiosk. See Evelynne Pyne with questions.



**Women's Venue** next Tuesday, February 13th at 6pm. Location: Saddleback BBQ on Central Park Place. Saddleback BBQ, 1754 Central Park Drive Suite G2, Okemos, Michigan.

**Men's Venue** will be 6pm, Tuesday, February 20th at The Draft House, 12449 S. US. HWY 27, DeWitt.