



HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH
THE ANCHOR
FEBRUARY 2008

A CHALLENGE

I dare you. I double-dog dare you.

You can't turn down a dare like that unless you're a chicken. And the last thing you want to be is a chicken, right? So here's the dare: I dare you to memorize the Small Catechism during Lent.

Yes, the whole thing. All six chief parts: The Ten Commandments, the Apostles' Creed, The Lord's Prayer, the Sacrament of Holy Baptism, Confession, and the Sacrament of the Altar. Bonus points if you also memorize the Daily Prayers and Luther's Christian Questions and Answers.

The *Small Catechism* is a summary of Holy Scripture. By knowing the Catechism by heart, you will thus know a summary of Scripture by heart.

Throughout the church's history, the church has used the season of Lent as a season for catechesis. Adult catechumens would be instructed during Lent before being baptized at the Easter Vigil service, usually along with their entire families.

The Catechism is the language of faith. You were given the Lord's gift of faith when He claimed you as His own in the waters of Holy Baptism. He delivers faith to you where and when His word is proclaimed. And He guards and strengthens your faith as He delivers to you the Body and Blood of Jesus in the Lord's Supper. By memorizing the language of faith in the Catechism, you put words to the gift the Lord has given you.

Memorizing is different from studying, although studying the Catechism is also beneficial. Luther, who wrote the *Small Catechism*, said, "Every morning and every evening, and whenever I have, I read and say word-for-word the Lord's Prayer, the Ten Commandments, the Creed, the Psalms, etc. I must still read and study the Catechism daily, yet I cannot master it as I wish, but must remain a child and pupil of the Catechism, and I gladly do it." Memorizing the Catechism is like learning the language of faith. When you learned to speak English, you didn't understand the language completely the first time you learned its words. Likewise with the Catechism, you learn its words by heart, the words of faith, and spend a lifetime discovering what those words mean.

If you already have the *Small Catechism* memorized (Cheers to you!), spend this penitential, self-sacrificial time of Lent memorizing other things that teach you the language of faith: Psalms, other portions of Scripture, and hymns.

Catechesis is a lifelong process. If you're a parent, God has made you the catechist (spiritual teacher) of your children. That's a difficult task (but one for which you'll be called to account). The task is made easier when you have the Catechism's language as your own language. So I challenge you, for your own benefit and for the benefit of those to whom you're called to teach the faith, to memorize the *Small Catechism*.

No, it won't be easy. But neither will it disappoint you.

In Christ's Service,

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STEWARDSHIP CORNER

JANUARY ATTENDANCE

	Divine Service/Lord's Supper	Sunday School	Adult Bible Class
6 th	105 / 84	22	22
13 th	136 / 98	26	26
20 th	117 / 90	21	22
27 th	See next month's Anchor		

FINANCIAL REPORT

	1/6	1/13	1/20	1/27
Envelope	\$1904	\$1775	\$2104	
Plate	\$74.25	\$314.50	\$110.44	
SS	\$30	\$22.50	\$31	
DebtFund	\$105			
Missions				
Bibles				
Hymnals				
Flowers				
Improvmt				
Memorials				
Rental		\$25		
Parking	\$100		\$200	
Other	\$150			

SERVING IN JANUARY

Elders: Lead: Dennis Henneman
Asst.: Kerry Hall

Altar Guild: Ruth Ficker & Carol & Bob Skibbe

Greeters

Feb 3: Gary & J Kallal
Feb 6:
Feb 10: John & Tina Lyming
Feb 13:
Feb 17: Kerry & Rhonda Hall
Feb 20:
Feb 24: John & Ruth Ficker
Feb 27:

Ushers

Feb 3: Rick Angel, Len Straub, Marvin Frazer, Randy Margeson

Feb 6: John Lyming, Kerry Hall, Tim VanHoveln, Roy Young

Feb 10: John Ficker, Steve Ficker, Nathan Martin, Bill Ivers

Feb 13: Vince Sibley, Pat Summers

Feb 17: John Lyming, Mike Roth, Jerry Summers, Scott Summers

Feb 20: Jerry Summers, Don Carpenter

Feb 24: Dave Roth, Don Carpenter, Eric Trisler, Kris McGuire

Feb 27: Marvin Frazer, Herb Frazer

Acolytes

Feb 3: Amy Straub

Feb 6: Nick Miller

Feb 10: Garret Blasa

Feb 13: Koty Rethorn

Feb 17: Taylor Eberhardt

Feb 20: Taylor Eberhardt

Feb 24: Aloera Montz

Feb 27: Koty Rethorn

"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and discipline." —Proverbs 1:7

NEWS & NOTES

"They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And The Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved."

- Acts 2: 42-47

SUNSHINE CIRCLE

The Cookie Walk brought in over \$1000, and we thank all those who helped or brought in donations of cookies and candy.

The ladies will be using some of that money to buy window film for the west door of the Educational Bldg., new blinds in Pastor's Office, the Ladies room, and the Bible Class room. They will also buy new wastebaskets and door mats.

The ladies will also try to make new banners for Church during the coming year.

YOUTH

Busy planning and preparing for the Dinner for Two, February 16, 5-8 p.m. The cost is \$25.00 per couple. Sign up at church—Hope you can come!

ADULT BIBLE CLASS

Adult Bible Class continues to work through the Book of Romans with Pastor Hemmer. It's never too late to join in. Bible class is a great time for biblical beginners and theological scholars to discuss and learn something. Try coming this week—there's the nursery and Sunday school for the kids, so no excuses ☺

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

The men continue to meet on Wednesday mornings from 7-8 a.m. to study the book of Colossians.

Morning Prayer, for everyone, is on Wednesdays from 6:45-7 a.m. A quiet service, and a great way to start the day.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

The grade school kids will be studying these Bible stories this month:

Feb 3: Matthew 17:1-9 *The Transfiguration*

Feb 10: Matthew 4:1-11 *Temptation of Jesus*

Feb 17: John 3:1-21 *Jesus teaches Nicodemus*

Feb 24: John 4:1-42 *Jesus and the Samaritan Woman*

The High School class is beginning a study on angels. Don't miss it.

"Are not all angels ministering spirits sent to serve those who will inherit salvation?" -- *Hebrews 1:14*

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

In addition to our weekly Sunday services, God's gifts will be offered at the following times during Lent. Don't miss the Free Soup Suppers on Wednesdays!

Wednesday Services

Ash Wednesday- February 6, 7:00pm

Following Wednesdays until Easter, 7:00pm

FREE SOUP SUPPERS

Come and eat with your church family before the Wednesday night services. 5:30-6:30.

Check your mailbox for a complete schedule for the season.

See you there...

LIVE AND LEARN:

FOCUS ON THE HYMN OF THE MONTH

Lent is a time to reflect, both on our own sinfulness and unworthiness and on Jesus' amazing sacrifice for our sins. Get ready to sing this hymn at our Wednesday evening services throughout the season.

440

Jesus, I Will Ponder Now

1 Je - sus, I will pon - der now On Your ho - ly pas - sion.
 2 Make me see Your great dis - tress, An - guish, and af - flic - tion.
 3 Yet, O Lord, not thus a - lone Make me see Your pas - sion.
 4 Grant that I Your pas - sion view With re - pen - tant griev - ing.

With Your Spir - it me en - dow For such med - i - ta - tion.
 Bonds and stripes and wretch - ed - ness And Your cru - ci - fix - ion.
 But its cause to me make known And its ter - ri - ble na - tion.
 Let me not bring shame to You By un - ho - ly liv - ing.

Grant that I in love and faith May the im - age cher - ish
 Make me see how scourge and rod, Spear and nails did wound You.
 Ah! I al - so and my sin Wrought Your deep af - flic - tion.
 How could I re - fuse to shun fix - ty sin - ful plea - sure

Of Your suf - f'ring, pain, and death That I may not per - ish.
 How for them You died, O God, Who with thorns had crowned You.
 This in - deed the - cause has been Of Your cru - ci - fix - ion.
 Since for me God's on - ly Son Suf - fered with - out mea - sure?

5 If my sins give me alarm
 And my conscience grieve me,
 Let Your cross my fear disarm;
 Peace of conscience give me.
 Help me see forgiveness won
 By Your holy passion.
 If for me He lays His Son,
 God must have compassion!

6 Graciously my faith renew:
 Help me bear my crosses,
 Learning humbleness from You,
 Peace mid pain and losses.
 May I give You love for love!
 Hear me, O my Savior,
 That I may in heav'n above
 Sing Your praise forever.

NEWS FROM ALL AROUND

Women's Day of Renewal
Saturday, March 8, 2008

The Utterly Amazing Life

8th Annual Women's Day of Renewal
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Collinsville, Illinois

YOUR DAY will begin with sign-in and a continental breakfast from 7:45 - 8:40 a.m. and will end at 3:30 p.m. The Women's Day of Renewal is a day just for you. It's a day to put aside your everyday problems, chores, and the wintertime blues - a day to focus on why you are so special to God. Join us for a refreshing, relaxing, spiritually renewing, joy-filled day. Discover the amazing life God has created especially for you!

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: MICHELLE THOMPSON

Michelle Thompson enjoys taking the simple stories and things of life and turning them into big things for God. Through laughter, practicality, glimpses of wisdom and scripture, Michelle shares a message of God's overwhelming love and His desire for our lives to be filled with His overflowing joy. Michelle currently serves as the strategic leader for Next Generation Ministries at St. John Lutheran Church in Ellisville, Missouri. She holds a Masters in Children's and Family Ministry from Bethel Seminary in St. Paul, MN. She is a frequent speaker at national and regional conferences.



KEYNOTE ADDRESS: THE UTTERLY AMAZING LIFE

Session 1: Utterly Amazing! Are you sure???? God's promise in Habakkuk 1:5 states that something utterly amazing will happen that Habakkuk wouldn't believe even if he was told. But, the story plays out in a way very different from what seems ideal and "utterly amazing." How about us? Do we believe the promises of God for our lives? And, how do we respond when it doesn't go our way?

Session 2: Let's see what you got! Habakkuk declares that he will stand his watch and see what God will do. How well do we trust in God and try to not retake control. And in the end do we, like Habakkuk, end with a declaration of praise?

To register, look for registration forms on the Events bulletin board or go to www.goodshepherdcollinsville.org.

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

"Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for he who loves his fellowman has fulfilled the law. The commandments, 'Do not commit adultery,' 'Do not murder,' 'Do not steal' 'Do not covet,' and whatever other commandment there may be are summed up in this one rule: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' Love does no harm to its neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law."—Romans 13: 8-10

PRAYER PARTNERS

This month, we pray particularly for these brothers and sisters in Christ:

Week of February 3:

Jeff & Cori Blasa, Garret & Lauren; Lillian Blasa; Joe & Ruth Blattner

Week of February 10:

Karen & Jeff Brinkman; Nathanel & Katelyn Aldefer; Doloris Burnett

Week of February 17:

Tim & Sharon Butler, Jason, Melissa, & Adam; Ruth Cook, Margaret Linsley

Week of February 24:

Don & Kaye Carpenter, Carrie Carpenter & Eliana, Doug & Ashley Carpenter; Larry & Diane Decker

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 2/2 Sarah Basham
Noreen Manns
- 2/3 Luke Smith
- 2/4 Keith Baecht
Christina Postlewait
- 2/5 Nathan Martin
- 2/12 Pastor Hemmer
- 2/14 Simon Purcell
- 2/15 Bob Hartmann
- 2/16 Gaylene McKennon
- 2/17 Doris Sibley
- 2/18 Nancy Green
- 2/20 Fred Starks
- 2/22 Nick Miller
- 2/23 Lauren Blasa
Herb Frazer
- 2/24 Judith Stanley
- 2/26 Sheri Gaffner

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- 9th – Dr. James and Marcia Adams
- 12th—Vance and Kelly Miller
- 14th—Herb and Kim Frazer
- 28th—Mike and Jennifer Strubberg

*"Show proper respect to everyone:
Love the brotherhood of believers,
fear God, honor the king."*

1 Peter 2:17

THE ANCHOR FEBRUARY 2008

FEBRUARY 2008

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3 8:30a Bible Class & Sunday School 9:30a Divine Service	4 6:00-6:15 Evening Prayer 6:00-7:30 Youth Catechesis	5 6:00-7:00p Elders' Mtg 7:00-8:00p Council Mtg. 8:00-8:15p Compline	6 Ash Wednesday 6:45a Morning Prayer 7:00-8:00a Men's Bible Study 9:30a Ladies' Bible Study 5:30-6:30p Free Soup Supper 6:00-6:45p Private Confession 7:00p Lenten Service	7 6:00-7:00p Youth Group	8	9
10 8:30a Bible Class & Sunday School 9:30a Divine Service	11 6:00-6:15 Evening Prayer 6:00-7:30 Youth Catechesis 6:30-8:00p Girl Scouts	12	13 6:45a Morning Prayer 7:00-8:00a Men's Bible Study 9:30a Sunshine Circle 5:30-6:30p Free Soup Supper 6:00-6:45p Private Confession 7:00p Lenten Service	14	15	16 5:00-8:00p Dinner for Two
17 8:30a Bible Class & Sunday School 9:30a Divine Service	18 6:00-6:15 Evening Prayer 6:00-7:30 Youth Catechesis 6:30p Jerseyville Quilters	19	20 6:45a Morning Prayer 7:00-8:00a Men's Bible Study 9:30a Ladies' Bible Study 5:30-6:30p Free Soup Supper 6:00-6:45p Private Confession 7:00p Lenten Service	21	22	23
24 8:30a Bible Class & Sunday School 9:30a Divine Service	25	26	27 6:45a Morning Prayer 7:00-8:00a Men's Bible Study 9:30a Sunshine Circle 5:30-6:30p Free Soup Supper 6:00-6:45p Private Confession 7:00p Lenten Service	28	29	