



The King's Messenger

Christ the King Lutheran Church

402-733-3294 · 7308 South 42nd Street (3 blocks south of Harrison)

www.ctklc-bellevue.org Newsletter Email: ctknewsletter@yahoo.com

Growing in Faith Love and Service to the God who loves us

Christ the King Lutheran Church
7308 South 42nd Street
Bellevue, Nebraska 68147
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

What's Happening in February and March!

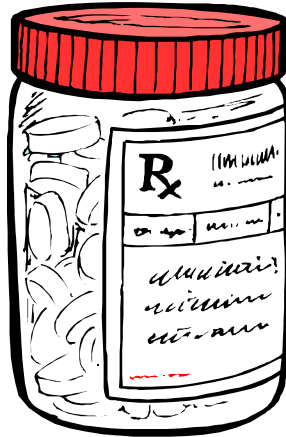
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|---|--|
| Wed., Feb. 1, 8:00am – Lum's Breakfast Group | Tues., Mar. 6, 7:00pm – LWR Quilting |
| Sun., Feb. 5, 11:15 – 2 nd – 6 th After-worship Event | Wed., Mar. 7, 8:00am – Lum's Breakfast Group |
| – Lunch Bunch to | 6:00pm – Soup Supper |
| Summer Kitchen Cafe | 7:00pm – Lenten Worship |
| Tues., Feb. 7, 9:00am – LWR Quilting | Thurs., Mar. 8, 1:00pm – Hand & Foot at Mable Rose |
| Thurs., Feb. 9, 1:00pm – Hand & Foot at Mable Rose | Sat., Mar. 10, 8:00am – Men's Breakfast |
| Sat., Feb. 11, 8:00am – Men's Breakfast | Mon., Mar. 12, 7:00pm – Mosaic Party |
| 10:00am - 11:30am – Council Retreat | Wed., Mar. 14, 6:00pm – Soup Supper |
| Mon., Feb. 13, 7:00pm – Mosaic Party | 7:00pm – Lenten Worship |
| Mon., Feb. 14, 11:00am – Bryan Area Mother-Singer's | Tues., Mar. 20, 9:00am – LWR Quilting |
| Sun., Feb. 19 – First Communion Sun. | 11:30am – Women's Bible Study |
| Tues., Feb. 21, 9:00am – LWR Quilting | Wed., Mar. 21, 6:00pm – Soup Supper |
| 11:30am – Women's Bible Study | 7:00pm – Lenten Worship |
| Wed., Feb. 22, 7:00pm – Ash Wed. Worship | Wed., Mar. 28, 6:00pm – Soup Supper |
| Fri, Feb 24, 4:30 - 7:00pm – Fish Fry #1 | 7:00pm – Lenten Worship |
| Wed., Feb. 29, 6:00pm – Soup Supper | |
| 7:00pm – Lenten Worship | |
| Fri., Mar. 2, 4:30 - 7:00pm – Fish Fry #2 | |

Grace and Peace!

Occasionally people come to the church office looking for financial help. Their needs and circumstances vary. A couple of weeks ago a man had come to the church because he had a prescription to fill and had lost his wallet.

Many of you, no doubt, are already doubting the man's story. I always do, too. My question, first of all, is what the person *really* wants the money for. So I gave my standard answer. Tell him to meet me at the pharmacy and I will pay for the prescription. On only few occasions has anyone done so. Gas, food, diapers yes... prescriptions seldom.

Surprisingly, this man actually did have a prescription to fill. After he got his pills, he thanked me. He asked me his current burning theological question, whether it was God who had sent him misfortune in order to tell him something.



But he kept saying over and over and over that he would be in my office Friday to pay me back. Two Fridays have passed and I have not seen him. If I did, it would be the first time someone paid me back from one of these acts of charity.

They always say they will, however. I think I know why. They don't want to be beholden to anyone – just like everyone else. We are really uncomfortable with the emotion of gratitude. It is too hard for us just to say "thank you."

At that moment in the Walgreen's pharmacy, he *thought* he would pay me back. He needed to believe that he would pay me back. Because otherwise, he was in my debt. He saw himself as a man who made his own way in this world, who was beholden to no one.

So what happens when someone does something so big for us that we can never possibly pay them back? If we are uncomfortable with gratitude for the small things, how do we respond?

We make all kinds of bargains with God to get what we want, but the truth be told, God has already given much more than we can ever repay. We talk about it in our prayers at the offertory, "ourselves, our time, and our possessions." And then there is the gift of God's Son, the gift of new life. So we are really in no position to bargain with God. And yet God continues to give us good things as if our bank account were not already overdrawn.

If this man came back to me for assistance as often as I go to God to ask for things, I wonder if I would continue to help him or fill his prescriptions. Would I remind him that he hadn't paid back the last one, as he had promised.

I almost typed that we will have to work harder at this gratitude thing. But it is exactly the opposite. It isn't about working harder. It is about letting go. We have to let go of any idea of paying back God. We will have to let go of any notion of settling the score. When we let go of any notion of being able to pay it back then we are ready for a life of gratitude. We are ready for a life of joy and thanksgiving.

As we head toward the Lenten season perhaps we can think about making that our Lenten discipline – to give up any idea of paying back God. Easter then can be for us a celebration of the new life God wants us to receive.

Lord, here I am with all that you have given asking for one thing more: the grace just to say thank you and to live in that gratitude. Amen.

A handwritten signature in black ink.

The King's Messenger

February 2012/
March 2012

Christ the King Lutheran Church

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Growing in Faith, Love and Service to the God Who Loves Us



Winter has arrived along with the New Year. Did you make any New Year's resolutions? Have you set any goals for yourself that you would like to accomplish this year? Take some time to think about how you can make a difference for good in this world.

Lutheran Women of Omaha will meet Tuesday, February 14 at noon for lunch and program at St. Matthew Lutheran Church (1725 South 60th Street). The program will be presented by a speaker from the Stephen Center. Cost is \$6. Reservations to Mardelle by February 12.

Lutheran World Relief quilting will resume on Tuesday, February 7 at 9 a.m. Our ladies are badly in need of people to help tie quilts: presently two are out of town and one is in rehab which leaves just three to do the work. They will be most happy to show you what to do. Coffee, treats and conversation are enjoyed during the morning.

Our Bible Study group will meet Tuesday, February 21 at 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We continue our study of the Gospel of Mark. "Tough Questions" is the title of this month's Bible study which will be led by Gayle Carmine. Phyllis Carlson is hostess. Anyone is welcome to join us as we study God's word.

Spring Gathering will be Saturday, April 14 at Bethany Lutheran church in Elkhorn. Theme is "Christ Makes Life Exciting!". Featured guests are Amy Chisholm from Project Harmony and Diane Gubbels who will share her stories of inspiration with her quilts. Cost is \$15.

Please continue to save UPC's from "Our family" products, UPC's from Campbell soups (save the entire label) and General Mills "Box Tops for Education". A box for these items is located on the piano in the Fellowship Hall.

For the Lenten Season...

"Do you fast? Give me proof of it by your works.

If you see a poor man, take pity on him.

If you see a friend being honored, do not envy him.

Do not let only your mouth fast, but also the eye and the ear and the feet and the hands and all the members of our bodies.

Let the hands fast, by being free of avarice.

Let the feet fast, by ceasing to run after sin.

Let the eyes fast, by disciplining them not to glare at that which is sinful.

Let the ear fast, by not listening to evil talk and gossip.

Let the mouth fast from foul words and unjust criticism.

For what good is it if we abstain from birds and fishes, but bite and devour our brothers?

May He who came to the world to save sinners, strengthen us to complete the fast with humility! Have mercy on us and save us. Amen."

**St. John Chrysostom
347ad-407ad**



Sunday Lenten Series

February 26 - March 25

Where is God at work in your life?

The disciples of John the Baptist came to Jesus asking, "Are you the one, or should we be looking for another?"

Jesus doesn't give them a direct answer but points to signs; the deaf hear, the blind see, the lame walk, dead are raised the Good News is proclaimed... the promises of God are made real.

On Sunday mornings in Lent we will be hearing from our friends at Christ the King how God has been at work in their lives. The signs of the kingdom have not gone away. God is at work in our very midst. Jesus' question is for us as well. "What do you see?"

Where is God at work in your life?

Lenten Evening Worship

Wednesdays 7:00pm

Ash Wednesday is February 22



Walking with Jesus

Wednesday evening during Lent will again feature Holden Evening Prayer; a reflective and peaceful service to end the day. The message will be a contemplative and imaginative narrative in which you are invited to experience being with Jesus as he made his way to Jerusalem and the cross.

Sign up to bring a soup or bread if you would like to share or just come for a simple meal and fellowship.



Bread and Broth Supper at 6:00pm

Caring & Sharing Receipt

On Christ the King Sunday members of Christ the King Lutheran dined at "Don & Millie's" to celebrate our name day. The church later received a check for \$57.42 (20% of the net sales of \$287.11) which has been deposited in our Elevator Fund.

THANK YOU FROM HILLCREST

Dear Christ the King Lutheran Church,
Thank you for the thoughtful donation of poinsettia plants after Christmas. They really brightened the rooms and the day for 10 rehab patients!

Sincerely,
Ann Wieringa
Director of Recreation

Arts For All, Inc. Putting the arts back in heARTS



Dear Members of Christ The King Lutheran,

The Board of Directors and staff of Arts For All, Inc. would like to thank you for your generous donation to our program. Your donation of classroom space over the years has been essential to Arts For All. Also, your assistance with the eBay Foundation Grant was greatly appreciated.

It has been a difficult year for many non-profits. Your assistance allowed us to continue providing affordable and accessible arts education for all, providing arts education for more than 2,100 students this past year.

At Arts For All we believe that all people have the ability to be creative and express themselves through the arts. We have numerous stories of students whose lives have been positively impacted by your support and Arts For All programs. Cara, a six-year old girl, loved to dance. Her family could not afford to enroll her in a typical for-profit dance school as her father had recently lost his job. The fees and tuition were just too expensive. After seeing an Arts For All ad, Cara excitedly signed up for a ballet class. She was able to study with a talented and dedicated teacher.

Arts For All provides classes in the visual, performing, and musical arts at \$6 a class. Payment plans and reduced class costs are also available to those who need further assistance. We look forward to working with you in the future. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Judith Mallory
Executive Director
Arts For All, Inc.

Thank You

We would like to thank everyone for their prayers, calls, and cards during our recent "down time". You can't imagine how much it meant and was greatly appreciated.

God Bless you all.
Dick and Jeri Lindauer

It's a Girl!

Dick and Jeri are thankful for the birth of great granddaughter Harper Lynn on December 21st to Ann and Jeremy Mace. She weighed 8lbs. 1oz.



Transfiguration Sunday **February 19, 2012** **A change is coming!**

On Transfiguration Sunday you will notice that we have new cranberry hymnals in the pews. The blue and green hymnals are seventeen and thirty-four years old and they are falling apart.

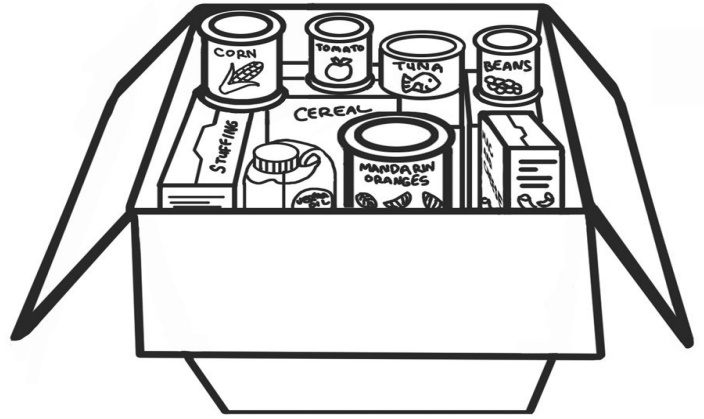
The new hymnal brings together the same songs from the old ones, but we will only have one book to contend with now. Anonymous donations have made it possible to buy these new hymnals. It will be so nice not to have to flip between two books.

You may notice a few word changes in some of the songs. The LBW, the Green Hymnal, changed the wording of some hymns to make them "gender neutral" - as in "Joy To The World", the first verse reads "let earth receive its King." Evangelical Lutheran Worship, the cranberry hymnal, returned to the original wording, "let earth receive her King".

The new hymnal will not bring a change in how we worship. The liturgies in the front of the new hymnal are no easier to follow than in either of the older versions and so, we will continue to print the liturgy in the bulletin.

I am looking forward to only having one book to sing our hymns out of. I hope everyone enjoys this change and hopefully these books will last us as long as the older ones did.

Judy Taylor



40 CANS for 40 DAYS

Lent is a season in which people often give up something as a spiritual practice. In this challenge households are encouraged to give up something from their pantry or grocery cart for each day in Lent. Do it each day, once a week or just one time as you do your grocery shopping. Then bring those groceries to the food pantry shelves in the entryway. Food sacrificed at the temple often went to help the less fortunate. This challenge does the same.

Thank You

I would like to thank everyone for their prayers and the cards that were sent to me. Also thank you to everyone that I talked to on the phone that asked how I was doing. This just reminds me of the close fellowship we have at this church and how thankful Ron and I are at being part of this congregation.

Thanks
Judy Taylor

February Anniversaries

- 3 Danny & Muffy Bratsveen
- 6 Steve & Ann Kennon

February Birthdays

- 1 Jeri Lindauer
- 2 Norm Grob
- 2 Deanna Raven
- 2 Norma Manceaux
- 4 Harold Rice
- 7 Brook Pecka
- 8 Val Prismantas
- 9 Sean Keffer
- 11 Chad Keffer
- 11 Brandon Pecka
- 13 Ron Taylor
- 17 Lois Smith
- 18 Ashley Hansen
- 20 Jeff Heldt
- 21 Jeffrey McCulloch
- 22 Theresa DePuy
- 25 Sharon Bernier
- 28 Marge Butler

March Anniversaries

- 1 Harold & Caroline Rice
- 22 Mike & Carol Galaska
- 24 Richard & Jeri Lindauer

March Birthdays

- 1 Katheryn Rice
- 1 Daniel Rice
- 7 Sarah Marx
- 8 Aaron Carlson
- 9 John Thompson
- 9 Elijah Christy
- 12 Alma Swartos
- 18 Val Johnson
- 19 Harriet Carlson
- 17 Haleigh Welshonse
- 24 Debi Marx
- 25 Eric Carlson
- 25 Denise Vaag
- 27 Regan Taylor
- 29 Michael Stubbe
- 29 Hailey Smyth
- 30 Brett Robalik
- 31 Jordan Dawkins

God's Valentine Gift

God's Valentine gift of love to us
Was not a bunch of flowers;
It wasn't candy, or a book
To while away the hours.
His gift was to become a man,
So He could freely give
His sacrificial love for us,
So you and I could live.
He gave us sweet salvation, and
Instruction, good and true--
To love our friends and enemies
And love our Savior, too.
So as we give our Valentines,
Let's thank our Lord and King;
The reason we have love to give
Is that He gave everything.

By Joanna Fuchs



Saint Patrick, was said to have used the three-leafed shamrock to illustrate the Holy Trinity. He explained in his sermons that the clover represented how the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit were all separate parts of a single entity. His followers adopted the custom of wearing a shamrock on his feast day, March 17.

Fish Fry



FLOWER  **POWER**

New this year at our Fish Frys will be another fundraising opportunity. Flower Power Fundraising is an online direct sales company that sells flowers and other garden plants to help raise money for non-profits. Flower Power sells top-quality, best-selling flower bulbs and plants and in exchange for helping to promote their company, our congregation will receive a full 50% of the proceeds from each sale made through our congregation's efforts.

At both Fish Frys we will have color catalogues and order forms. Plus! With online purchasing, people could pay by credit card and even shop from home. We believe this fundraiser, with a little help from you, will be a blooming success.

Friday February 24, 2012
Friday March 2, 2012
4:30pm - 7:00pm

**Fish will Fry again this year
and it's still better than
them other guys!**

You asked for it and you got it! We will be having 2 fish frys this year – February 24 and March 2. We will be frying, serving and eating fish. Call Dave Johnson (402-331-1129) or Jon Butler (402-291-4129) to help out.

**Invite your friends
and neighbors!**

Why?


- Christ the King gets 50% of every sale
- Only top-quality plants will be shipped to you, your friends and relatives
- Flower Power ships directly to your doorstep
- A flat \$5 shipping charge
- 100% Satisfaction Guaranteed!

How can you help?

Right now there is already a link to our Fundraiser site on our home page. Go to

CTKLC-Bellevue.org

click on the flowers and browse the terrific assortment of flower bulbs and perennials offered at Flower Power Fundraising. And then tell everyone you know who plants in the spring. Remember 50% of the money from every item you or someone you tell purchase counts toward our fundraiser and helps our congregation.

**Men's
Breakfast** 
February 11 and March 10
8:00am

Men's Breakfast meets the second Saturday of every month at 8:00 a.m. where men of Christ the King unite in fellowship, dialogue and service to others. Come yourself and bring a friend!

Lenten Devotional Calendar for 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Each day has a short reflection and suggested scripture reading for personal devotion during this sacred season. The outlined days are opportunities for worship at Christ the King. Sunday Morning Worship is at 10am, the Wednesday and the Maundy Thursday and Good Friday Services are at 7pm.</p>			<p>February 22 Ash Wednesday</p> <p>This Lent, God wants us to quietly listen to the words of his Son.</p> <p>Matt. 6:1-6. 16-18</p>	<p>23</p> <p>In following Christ, the goal is not success, but self-denial and submission.</p> <p>Luke 9:22-25</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Fish Fry! Celebrate in God's presence: gather your friends and eat your fill.</p> <p>Luke 5:27-32</p>	<p>25</p> <p>When we follow Jesus, he leads us to love our neighbor as ourselves.</p> <p>Isaiah 58:1-9</p>
<p>26</p> <p>Jesus speaks the truth in our hearts. Let us respond to it in word and deed.</p> <p>Romans 10:8-13</p>	<p>27</p> <p>God reveals himself in relationship, not in duty or rumor.</p> <p>Matthew 16:13-19</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Thank you, Jesus, for giving us words to pray when we have none.</p> <p>Matthew 6:7-15</p>	<p>29</p> <p>It hurts to admit our faults, but confession and forgiveness are the balms that soothe.</p> <p>Psalm 51</p>	<p>March 1</p> <p>God is always giving himself up for us, providing whatever we need to find him.</p> <p>Matthew 7:7-12</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Fish Fry! God is not glorified in selfish sacrifices, but in charity toward others.</p> <p>Matthew 5:20-26</p>	<p>3</p> <p>When we aim at what is right, God guides our paths to pure targets.</p> <p>Deut. 26:16-19</p>
<p>4</p> <p>Imitate models of faith; Christ, the saints and those who are living the gospel.</p> <p>Phil. 3:17-4:1</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Holding on to guilt can be painful. Let's trade it in for mercy.</p> <p>Luke 6:36-38</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Your Word O God, is the greatest teacher. From it, we find all truth.</p> <p>Matthew 23:1-12</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Jesus was exalted in his humility and glorified in his suffering.</p> <p>Matthew 20:17-28</p>	<p>8</p> <p>May we share what we have with the poor and hungry, the sick and lonely.</p> <p>Luke 16:19-31</p>	<p>9</p> <p>For strength in times of adversity, look to Joseph, sold as a slave.</p> <p>Gen. 37:3-4,12-28</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Much distracts us from following God, but the lost may always return.</p> <p>Luke 15:1-3,11-32</p>
<p>11</p> <p>Heavenly Lord help us to not remain dry and barren this year, but bear much fruit instead.</p> <p>Luke 13:1-9</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Lent may not shine with Easter miracles, but it holds little acts of love.</p> <p>2 Kings 5:1-15</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Look not at one's debts, but at the contrition or mercy he shows.</p> <p>Matthew 18:21-35</p>	<p>14</p> <p>God's wisdom is holy and true, no matter how old or new it might seem.</p> <p>Matthew 5:17-19</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Be not afraid: the Lord, who casts away demons, is our strength.</p> <p>Luke 11:14-23</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Nothing carries more value than this: to care for the least of God's children.</p> <p>Mark 12:28-34</p>	<p>17</p> <p>As Jesus humbled himself to come to us, so must we humbly approach our God.</p> <p>Luke 18: 9-14</p>
<p>18</p> <p>Reconciliation is a way to become an upgraded version of ourselves.</p> <p>2 Cor. 5:17-21</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Gather your Family and share a time when the Lord filled you With life and joy.</p> <p>Psalm 30</p>	<p>20</p> <p>All God's people come together under one baptism in the name of the Trinity.</p> <p>Ezekiel 47:1-9,12</p>	<p>21</p> <p>When we reflect on Jesus' resurrection, his divinity is clear.</p> <p>John 5:17-30</p>	<p>22</p> <p>May our small acts of penitence testify to the truth of God's mercy.</p> <p>John 5:31-47</p>	<p>23</p> <p>You never need to fear speaking the truth; the Spirit that sends you will protect you.</p> <p>John 7:1-2,10,25- 30</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Worry not about where someone has come from, but where he is going.</p> <p>John 7:40-53</p>
<p>25</p> <p>Surrounded by critics? Turn from sin, and Jesus will restore your dignity.</p> <p>John 8:1-11</p>	<p>26</p> <p>God's message is always the same: "be not afraid. I am with you"</p> <p>Psalm 23</p>	<p>27</p> <p>In his rising to heaven, Jesus professes his glorious name to the world.</p> <p>John 8:21-30</p>	<p>28</p> <p>The Father smiles when we yearn to please him with love and obedience.</p> <p>John 8:31-42</p>	<p>29</p> <p>In God, our identity is one of an adopted child, a chosen love.</p> <p>Genesis 17:3-9</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Holiness isn't in avoiding the threat of evil, but in trusting the power of good.</p> <p>Jeremiah 20:10-13</p>	<p>31</p> <p>Caiaphas said, "From the death of one man, all are united in God's name."</p> <p>John 11:45-56</p>
<p>April 1 Palm Sunday</p> <p>Though we, too, will die someday, Jesus gives us hope in new life</p> <p>Philippians 2:6-11</p>	<p>2</p> <p>The reality of the crucifixion is frightening, but Christ knew God was with him</p> <p>Psalm 27</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Show us how we betrayed you, Lord, so we can admit our guilt.</p> <p>John 13:21-38</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Jesus' suffering began with the betrayal of Judas Iscariot, one of his own.</p> <p>Matthew 26:14-25</p>	<p>5 Maundy Thursday</p> <p>When you are full of compassion for another, feast in the divine overflowing.</p> <p>1 Cor.11:23-26</p>	<p>6 Good Friday</p> <p>We flee and hide and deny our God, but today we are redeemed by his Son.</p> <p>John 18:1--19:42</p>	<p>7 Holy Saturday</p> <p>Seek the Lord where he can be found: with his people, among the living</p> <p>Luke 24:1-12</p>

Monthly Worship Duties

February

Communion Preparation

The Vaag Family

February 5, 2012

Assisting Minister Joy Woita
Acolyte Brooke Bell
Cross Bearer Katheryn Rice
Ushers Mardelle Gocek
LuDee Holmes

February 12, 2012

Assisting Minister Val Johnson
Acolyte Erik Junker
Cross Bearer Nathan Heldt
Ushers Jodi Keating
Marlene McCulloch

February 19, 2012

Assisting Minister Debbie Cline
Acolyte Jordan Kiesel
Cross Bearer Kirstei Bell
Ushers Gayle Carmine
Elaine Vaag

February 26, 2012

Assisting Minister Gene Schneiderman
Acolyte Brandon Robalik
Cross Bearer Daniel Rice
Ushers Phyllis Carlson
Don Williams

March

Communion Preparation

The Butler Family

March 4, 2012

Assisting Minister Jodi Keating
Acolyte Erik Junker
Cross Bearer Jocelyn Heldt
Ushers Vern & Julie Junker

March 11, 2012

Assisting Minister Jay Welshonse
Acolyte Brandon Robalik
Cross Bearer Brett Robalik
Ushers Bill & Sharon Webb

March 18, 2012

Assisting Minister Joy Woita
Acolyte Brooke Bell
Cross Bearer Emma Dawkins
Ushers Paul Bernier
Bernie Drassal

March 25, 2012

Assisting Minister Val Johnson
Acolyte Jordan Kiesel
Cross Bearer Evan Christy
Ushers Norm & Jean Grob

2012 Council

Council President Dave Johnson

Council Vice President Lee Fideline (Mission & Service)

Members Judy Taylor (Worship & Music)

Beth Christy (Christian Education)

Dick Lindaurer (Finance)

Debbie Cline (Congregational Life)

Bill Webb (Building and Grounds)

The position of Council Secretary and a Council Member position with Stewardship oversight were not filled at the Annual meeting. Anyone interested in serving in either of these capacities is invited to speak with a council member.