



# The Lamplighter



*Our Savior Lutheran Church - ELCA, Quincy, CA*

SPECIAL POINTS  
OF INTEREST:

- **Midweek Lenten Services**
- **Bible Studies**
- **Holy Week**
- **Easter**
- **April Women's Retreat**

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**FAITH PRACTICES: P.S. WISE-G**

**By Rev. Steve Hanson, First English Lutheran, Whitewater, WI**

How do I live my daily life as a Christian? What kind of practices should I adopt as a follower of Jesus? Let me suggest 7 basic "faith practices" that can help us grow in our faith. **P.S.-WISE-G** is the way I remember them. This is not an exhaustive list, nor is it new. These are simply seven foundational practices Christians have always used to assist them on their faith journey. I encourage you to use them and commit yourself to these practices.

**1) PRAY.** Pray daily. Pray for your family and others you care about. Pray for yourself and your concerns. Pray for our congregation, for unity and faithfulness. Pray for the staff, for lay leaders, for parents, seniors, the sick and grieving, children and youth.

Choose times to pray—even a few minutes at the beginning and the end of each day can make a big difference.

**2) STUDY.** Read and study the Bible. Read a few verses of Scripture each day, and meditate on them. The Psalms and the Gospels are a good place to start. Read books by Christian writers. Take advantage of opportunities to attend Bible studies and other education opportunities.

**3) WORSHIP.** Worship weekly. Faithful worship is important for living the Christian life. You need to hear God's Word and receive Christ in

Holy Communion to grow in your faith and receive spiritual strength for your week ahead. Others need your fellowship and you need their fellowship.

**4) INVITE.** Invite others to church or to a deeper relationship with God. Show the love of Christ in your actions and also with your words. All of us are called to share the Good News of God's love in Christ. The best way to do this is thoughtfully and genuinely, in the context of your relationships.

**5) SERVE.** Serve those in need. Participate in ministries of service. Seek justice. Advocate for the poor and the oppressed.

**6) ENCOURAGE.** Encourage each other in the body of Christ. Always try to build up rather than tear down. Avoid judging or criticizing others. Show understanding and empathy and compassion for others. Follow the example of Christ.

**7) GIVE.** Give generously to the work of the church, here at our church and beyond. The church is the only organization in the world which proclaims the Good News of God's love in Christ and serves others in the name of Christ. Your active giving of time, talent and money is crucial to fulfill the mission of the church.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS: MARCH—APRIL 2017

**LENT SEASON**

**March 2017**

- Wed. 3/1 Ash Wednesday Service 7 pm
- Sat. 3/4 Church Council Retreat Noon with Potluck at Edwards' house
- Tues. 3/7 **VBS Planning meeting at Methodist Church 2 pm**
- Tues. 3/7 **1st Aid/CPR Training at Methodist Church 3:15 pm**
- Wed. 3/8 Women's Cancer Support Group 6 pm Fellowship Hall
- Wed. 3/8 Midweek Lenten Service 7 pm**
- Thur. 3/9 Women's Bible Study 12:30 pm
- Sun. 3/12 Daylight Savings Time Begins
- Sun. 3/12 Adult Bible Study with POTLUCK after worship
- Tues. 3/14 Dress-a-Girl at Quincy Library 1 to 4 pm
- Wed. 3/15 Midweek Lenten Service 7 pm**
- Sun. 3/19 Council meeting after fellowship
- Tues. 3/21 Grief Group 11 am
- Wed. 3/22 Midweek Lenten Service 7 pm**
- Thur. 3/23 Women's Bible Study 12:30 pm
- Fri. 3/24 Ladies' Night Out 6 pm, place TBD
- Sun. 3/26 Adult Bible Study with POTLUCK after worship
- Wed. 3/29 Midweek Lenten Service 7 pm**



**April 2017**

- Sun. 4/2 Pastor away at Regional Leadership Training
- Wed. 4/5 Midweek Lenten Service 7 pm**
- Sun. 4/9 Palm Sunday and Adult Bible Study with POTLUCK after worship
- Wed. 4/12 Women's Cancer Support Group 6 pm Fellowship Hall
- Thur. 4/13 Women's Bible Study 12:30 pm
- Thur. 4/13 Maundy Thursday meal 5:30 pm and service at 6:30 pm Methodist Church**
- Fri. 4/14 Good Friday Service at OSLC 7 pm with Methodists**



**EASTER SEASON**

- Sun. 4/16 Easter Breakfast 9 am**
- Sun. 4/16 Easter Service 10 am**
- Sun. 4/23 Church Council meets after fellowship
- Thur. 4/27 Women's Bible Study 12:30 pm
- Fri. 4/28 Women's Retreat with Lord of Mercy Lutheran Church at OSLC 5 pm
- Sat. 4/29 Women's Retreat with Lord of Mercy Lutheran Church at OSLC—all day



**May 2017**

- Fri. 5/5 Synod Assembly in Fresno
- Sat. 5/6 Synod Assembly in Fresno
- Sun. 5/7 Synod Assembly in Fresno

**Men's Coffee Group:**  
meets every Monday (except holidays) at  
Dunn's Midtown Coffee at 8 am

## BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

### March Birthdays

Bernadette Brumit	3
Wayne Huffmon	8
Allison Sipe	8
Nancy Sipe	17
Chris Peters	19
Vern Behrens	27

### April Birthdays

Claudia Barnes	11
Gene Mills	18
Grant Edwards	19
Leah Feay	20
Karla Burnworth	24
Jerry Sipe	24
Susan Bradley	26

### April Anniversaries

Pat & Jan Cook	6
Dave & Chris Peters	12
Terry & Leah Feay	23



### March Anniversaries

Jim & Connie Huffmon	25
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## “God’s Work. Our Hands.” Vineyard Ministries by Alan Baitinger

This year, along with Beth and myself, my brother Bob journeyed to Mazatlán with us. We arrived January 2nd. We went on the City Dump tour and feeding and I went on three Colonia tours, which involved not only feedings, but bible studies for the adults and some craft activities with the children, who you all know I dearly love. Each trip involves preparing sandwiches, filling water bottles, etc. Dump tour includes making 300 sandwiches and there are usually 15 or so volunteers. The colonia tours are usually less. The Vineyard has completed 15 projects in the various Colonias, including enclosed buildings with plumbing, some showers and running water. By the way, a Colonia is a small village, usually 5 to 10 miles from the city, in the poor areas.

The Vineyard during the tourist season has between 200 to 300 at the Sunday service. It is a very untraditional service and as much as I love what they are doing and will continue to support them, we found a church only two blocks from where we stay, that is much like OSLC. The music, sermon and format is all familiar. It is called Iglesia Cristiana Congregacional de Mazatlán, better know as the blue church; around 125 attend on Sunday. I am just learning what their objective is for the people of Mazatlán. I am on the mailing and call list, so will learn more. The Vineyard was very thankful for the total of \$3,000 that I presented to Pastor Fred on behalf of OSLC. I would like to thank all our members who helped during the Pie Auction and other fundraising, also to Bill and Kimi, Marty, Karen and LaVern for their contributions. I hope to do a presentation at church in the future, showing photos of the good that happens on behalf of Christians from all over the world.



**At present 15** Community Centers of Hope

- 01. Zona Dorada
- 02. Valle del Ejido
- 03. Renato Vega
- 04. Urias
- 05. Estero
- 06. Villa Unión
- 07. Francisco I. Madero.
- 08. Doña Chonita
- 09. Isla de la Piedra
- 10. Universo
- 11. Loma Bonita
- 12. Villalpando
- 13. Ampliación Castillo
- 14. 3ra. Ampliación Urias (City Dump)
- 15. La Sirena

Touching the lives of over 1200 poor children by feeding them, giving them bible classes, and taking time for singing christian songs, playing games and organizing other recreational activities.

**Misiones de Compasión**  
**La VINA**  
Vineyard Ministries Central Mexico

The Vineyard Blesses over: **2,200** Adults and Children each week in our outreaches to those in need

**We also host**

Medical teams in the community centers  
We have Dental Clinics in three Community Centers  
3 Mobile Kitchens (to serve more than 25,000 meals every year)  
1 Mobile Sunday School. Children: games, dances, puppets and a Bible class  
Vineyard Zona Dorada. 700 meals and bottles of water are served to the workers in the Dump each week.  
Make a child smile  
Scholarship program

**www.vineyardmcm.com**

WEEKLY VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

Please sign up on chart in back of sanctuary or email/call Pastor Kendrah with dates/positions for which you can volunteer. Below is the schedule of dates for the next two months.

**Please help fill in where you can! Thank you!**

<u>Month</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Assisting Minister</u>	<u>Clean Church</u>	<u>Altar Care</u>	<u>Refreshments</u>
March	5	Susan Donald	Lori Simpson	Alan Baitinger	Leftovers
March	12	Susan Donald	Lori Simpson	Alan Baitinger	POTLUCK
March	19		Alan Baitinger		
March	26				POTLUCK
April	2				
April	9				POTLUCK
April	16				EASTER BREAKFAST
April	23				
April	30				

**Annual Women’s Retreat—Care of Creation**

April 28th — April 30th at Our Savior with Lord of Mercy Lutheran in Sparks



We are trying something new this year by having our combined women’s weekend retreat at our church. We are asking ladies from our church to host one or more ladies overnight that Friday and Saturday, as well as participate in the retreat, of course!

We are also asking our ladies to take the lead on the meals, especially for lunches and dinners. We can choose to have a couple meals catered or we could share the cooking (we will have a budget). The LOM ladies will help lead a craft, games, and get-to-know each other activities. We also hope that we can do a short service project at a local garden (possibly Elementary School).

The cost of the retreat will be around \$50 per person. Mainly, we need to cover the cost of food, craft supplies and study materials. If you are interested in participating in the retreat, please let Pastor Kendrah know by the end of March. Also, indicate if you are willing to host a lady or two from LOM. Please plan to join us!

**Movie—“Luther and the Reformation” by Rick Steves**

If you missed our showing of this movie after the Shrove Tuesday Pancake dinner, you are welcome to borrow the DVD to view on your own. Just let Pastor Kendrah know when you would like to use it. Those who saw the movie said they enjoyed it, so you don’t want to miss out!

FINANCIAL REPORT—JANUARY 2017—PER FRED SURBER

Income		Expense	
<b>Offerings</b>		<b>Church General</b>	
Regular	7,452.00	Household Ex-	39.29
Special Funds		Insurance	1,763.00
CAN	50.00	Office Expenses	124.46
Change for Church	6.00	Worship Musician	1,200.00
Community	50.00	Worship Supplies	<u>64.80</u>
ELCA World		<b>Total Church General</b>	<b>3,191.55</b>
Hunger	32.87	<b>Pastor Compensation</b>	
Pastor Salary Fund	<u>300.00</u>	Housing	1,183.33
<b>Total Special Funds</b>	<u>438.87</u>	Salary	<u>2,342.91</u>
<b>Total Offerings</b>	<u>7,890.87</u>	<b>Total Pastor Compensation</b>	<b>3,526.24</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>7,890.87</b>	<b>Pastor Expenses</b>	
		Mileage	<u>31.05</u>
		<b>Total Pastor Expenses</b>	<b>31.05</b>
		<b>Utilities</b>	
		Electricity	74.74
		Garbage	17.17
		Heating	387.24
		Telephone & In-	136.66
		Water & Sewer	<u>39.96</u>
		<b>Total Utilities</b>	<u>655.77</u>
		<b>Total Expense</b>	<u>7,404.61</u>
		<b>Net</b>	<b><u>486.26</u></b>



**STEWARDSHIP REPORT**  
Weekly Giving—Regular

Week #	Date	Regular	Running Total	YTD Budget	+ or - Budgeted	Designated	Weekly Total
1	1/1/2017	\$2,465.00	\$2,465.00	\$1,622.85	\$842.15		\$2,465.00
2	1/8/2017	\$805.00	\$3,270.00	\$3,245.70	\$24.30		\$805.00
3	1/15/2017	\$545.00	\$3,815.00	\$4,868.55	(\$1,053.55)		\$545.00
4	1/22/2017	\$812.00	\$4,627.00	\$6,491.40	(\$1,864.40)		\$812.00
5	1/29/2017	\$2,825.00	\$7,452.00	\$8,114.25	(\$662.25)	\$ 438.87	\$3,263.87
6	2/5/2017	\$1,146.00	\$8,598.00	\$9,737.10	(\$1,139.10)		\$1,146.00
7	2/12/2017	\$2,380.00	\$10,978.00	\$11,359.95	(\$381.95)	\$ 100.00	\$2,480.00
8	2/19/2017	\$816.00	\$11,794.00	\$12,982.80	(\$1,188.80)		\$816.00
9	2/26/2017	\$690.00	\$12,484.00	\$14,605.65	(\$2,121.65)	\$ 34.00	\$724.00
YTD To-		\$12,484.00				\$ 572.87	\$13,056.87
tals							

## STEP UP BIBLE STUDY IN LENT!

Please consider participating in our Women's or Adult Bible Studies during Lent. You may also step up your individual Bible Study. We have at least one "Free Indeed" devotional left for whoever gets it first. The cost is only \$2. There are also devotionals available online and ones that you can have emailed to you daily (e.g. <http://www.luthersem.edu/godpause>). Ask Pastor Kendrah if you would like to know more!

### Women's Bible Study

Starting in Lent, we will be using a study called, "Christian Citizenship 101: Paul's Letter to the Philippians" by Phyllis Kersten and E. Louise Williams from the Women of the ELCA's *Gather* magazine in 2016. This is a four session study with the following topics:

- Confidence in God's beginnings and endings (March 9th)
- Servant-shaped soldiers (March 23rd)
- Being of one mind (April 13th)
- Keep on keeping on (April 27th)

Please plan to join us at 12:30 pm in Fellowship Hall for these studies. Feel free to invite a friend to attend!



### Adult Bible Study on Luther's Catechisms with Potlucks

In February, we began our Bible Study on **Luther's Catechism**. We are combining the newly published Small Catechism (\$5 each) with a resource which can be downloaded for free online called, "Connections: Faith and Life," that includes excerpts from the Large Catechism and choices of activities. We had a great discussion at our first meeting talking about the first two Commandments, and we anticipate many more inspiring and enlightening discussions.

This is a study that could take us the entire year, if we cover the Ten Commandments, Apostles' Creed, the Lord's Prayer and the Sacraments. After all, 2017 is the 500th anniversary of the Reformation! It is appropriate that we take the time to study these documents of our faith in detail.

Please plan to join us for POTLUCKS and Bible Studies on the following dates:

- March 12th (Daylight Savings Begins)
- March 26th
- April 9th (Palm Sunday)
- April 23rd

Future dates will be determined at the second meeting in April.



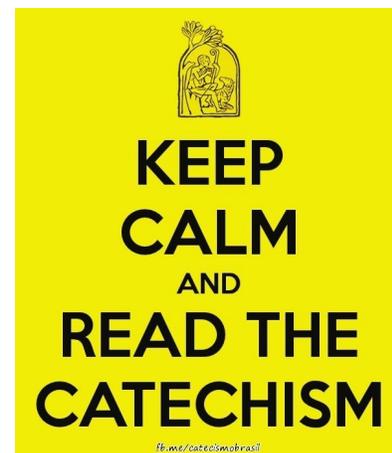
### MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICES—WEDNESDAYS AT 7 PM

For the season of Lent, we will be using Holden Evening Prayer at our Midweek Lenten services. During the services, we will reflect on the following topics: Pilgrimage, Renewal, Penitence, Preparation, and the Glory of God. Please join us!

# Church Humor - on Faith



St. Patrick driving the snakes out of Ireland.



Check out the Lutheran Insulter online:

<http://ergofabulous.org/luther/>

Here's an example:

"Are you ignorant of what it means to be ignorant?" From **The Bondage of the Will**, pg. 254 of Luther's Works, Vol. 33



Wanna buy an indulgence?



*Our Savior Lutheran Church - ELCA, Quincy, CA*

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Website: quincylutheran.org

Mission Statement: *We are a church family who worships together, serves our neighbors, and shares the love and grace of our Savior, Jesus Christ.*

Theme Verse: Isaiah 54:10: *“For the mountains may depart and the hills be removed, but my steadfast love shall not depart from you, and my covenant of peace shall not be removed, says the LORD, who has compassion on you.”*

## PASTOR'S LETTER

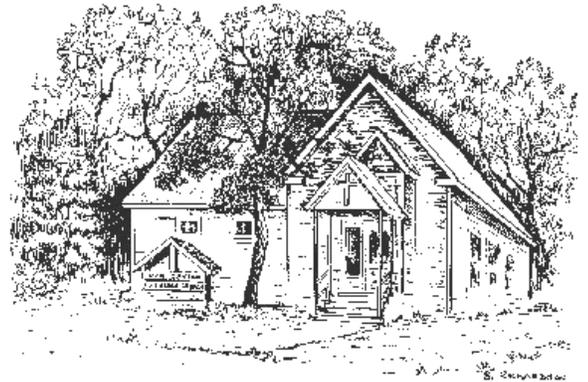
Dear Church Family,

It may seem strange to some, but the church season of Lent is my favorite. Sure Christmas and Easter are joyous, celebratory events, and I love them too, but there's something about Lent that touches my heart and soul more deeply.

It helps to know the end of the story before journeying down the path that led Jesus to the cross. We can bear the pain of our own sinfulness that led to Jesus' horrific death on the cross because we know that he rose again.

Although we shouldn't rush too fast to the end before savoring the journey. Lent gives us the opportunity to take a good hard look at our faith. We can see where we've grown over the past year and see where we have work to do. The continuous cycle of the church year allows us to revisit Lent year after year.

In our first Adult Bible study this year, we focused on the first two Commandments: You shall have no other gods and You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God. After the Bible Study, I happened to read a study on that same topic which suggested that the leader ask people to write down the one thing in their lives they would be most upset



about if they were to lose it. (I would probably say something like “my pets.”) After people have written an answer, the leader tells them “that is your god.” Wow, that puts things into perspective really fast! Even if we do not actually worship that item, it is a god in that we love and/or put our trust in it.

That is the kind of thing we can especially ponder during Lent. What do we love and trust the most? It is easy to say “God,” but is that the whole truth? How much are the second and third items on our list of “things we would be upset to lose” competing with God? Is our financial stability keeping us from giving more to God? Is our comfort preventing us from reaching out to help others more? So many things can get in the way of our following the path of Christ to the best of our ability.

Lent gives us a chance to start fresh. It gives us the chance to come into a deeper, more meaningful relationship with Christ. When we do that, we will find that we are refreshed and renewed, sometimes in unexpected ways.

In Christ, Pr. Kendrah