

March - April 2026

**Newsletter of Our Savior Lutheran
Church, ELCA**

298 E. High St. PO Box 1396
Quincy, CA 95971

The Lamplighter



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

Pastor's Letter



Dear Church Family,

For some reason, I'm always happy when we get to March. Maybe it's because we know winter will soon be behind us, early spring flowers are popping up, and birds are returning to the area. Maybe it's because green is my favorite color and the little bit of Irish in my blood likes the holiday of St. Patrick's Day. Or maybe it's because Easter is coming and the world is given new hope.

It seems odd to feel any sense of happiness when we are living in dark times. Sadly, there is fear of even darker times ahead. Conflicts and wars seem to be escalating, and corruption and hatred of others seems to be at an all-time high. Yet, even in the worst of times, I truly believe that goodness is stronger than evil, and we should never give up hope.

The words, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only son ..." (John 3:16) keep running through my head. I preached on this on Sun. March 1st. Although humanity does not deserve it, God still loves us and treats us with compassion and mercy. If we could try to do the same for our fellow humans and for the planet and creatures on it, how much better our world would be. No, we cannot love as perfectly as God does, but we must keep trying. Life depends on it.

There are those who want the second coming of Christ to come as quickly as possible, but that throws away the gift of the earth and the first coming of Christ that God

has already given us. We must learn to appreciate what we have now. Too many people take what we have been given for granted and are not very good stewards of relationships and resources.

This Lent we are focusing on Matthew 25:31-46 which mentions six unfortunate human conditions: Hunger, Thirst, Stranger, Naked, Sick, and in Prison. Many of us may not have experienced any of these conditions ourselves, except being sick. We have been very blessed not to have experienced the others. When we are not the ones suffering, we are called to help those who are. After all, Jesus says, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.' The opposite is also true. If we have failed to help our neighbors in need, we have failed to help Christ.

If we claim to be followers of Christ, even to the point of worshipping him as our Lord and Savior, the least we can do is emulate his actions and do what he did for people to the best of our abilities. Jesus extended love to everyone he met. Yes, there were those who rejected him from the beginning – usually those who thought they already had all the answers in regard to God. But even the Pharisee, Nicodemus, who we heard about this last Sunday, eventually came to accept Jesus and realized that Jesus was the one sent by God to save the world. Let us do the same from the depths of our hearts, minds, and souls. -In Christ's love, Pr. Kendrah

CALENDAR: March 2026

- Mon. 3/2 P.E.O. group meets in fellowship hall 7 pm
- Wed. 3/4 Midweek Lent service 5:30 pm**
- Thur. 3/5 – Tues. 3/10 Pr. Kendrah flies to Wisconsin for funeral/visit
- Sun. 3/8 Daylight Savings Time starts – Spring forward**
- Wed. 3/11 Midweek Lent service 5:30 pm**
- Wed. 3/11 Community Supper 6 pm**
- Thur. 3/12 P.E.O. group meets in fellowship hall 7 pm
- Sun. 3/15 Church Council 10:30 am**
- Mon. 3/16 P.E.O. Women meet in fellowship hall Noon to 3:30 pm
- Tue. 3/17 Women’s Bible Study 9:30 am**
- Wed. 3/18 Midweek Lent service 5:30 pm**
- Wed. 3/25 Midweek Lent service 5:30 pm**
- Wed. 3/25 Community Supper 6 pm**
- Sun. 3/29 Palm Sunday**
- Tues. 3/31 Women’s Bible Study 9:30 am**



March Birthdays

Chris Peters	19
Kathy Osher	28

March Anniversaries

None

Chair Yoga meets Wednesdays at 11 am in our Fellowship Hall

CALENDAR: April 2026

- Thur. 4/1 Maundy Thursday service 6 pm**
- Fri. 4/2 Good Friday service 7 pm at Methodist Church**
- Sun. 4/5 Easter Breakfast 8:45 am**
- Sun. 4/5 Easter service 9:30 am**
- Wed. 4/8 Community Supper 6 pm**
- Sun. 4/12 Church Council 10:30 am**
- Mon. 4/13 Dress-a-Girl in fellowship hall 1:30 – 3:30 pm
- Tue. 4/14 Women’s Bible Study 9:30 am**
- Mon. 4/20 P.E.O. Women meet in fellowship hall Noon to 3:30 pm
- Wed. 4/22 Community Supper 6 pm**
- Tues. 4/28 Women’s Bible Study 9:30 am**



April Birthdays

Maya Crump	9
Claudia Barnes	11
Grant Edwards	19
Karla Burnworth	24
Susan Bradley	26

April Anniversaries

Chris & Dave Peters	12
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Financial Secretary's Report through February 2026 by Karla Burnworth

Month	Regular Plate Offering	Hall Rental	Recycling	Total
Jan.	\$ 4,087.00	\$ 17.00	\$ 15.62	\$ 4,119.62
Feb.	\$ 28,787.00	\$ 8.00		\$ 28,795.00
Mar.				\$ -
Totals	\$ 32,874.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 15.62	\$ 32,914.62



Treasurer's Report through February 2026 (Budget vs. Actual) by Kathy Osher

GENERAL EXPENSES:		BUDGET	Jan 2026	Feb 2026	YTD Spent	BALANCE
	Bank Check Charges	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Household Expenses	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$150.00
	Insurance - church building	\$4,500.00	\$4,438.00	\$0.00	\$4,438.00	\$62.00
	Office Expenses (includes web domain)	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00
4% of regular offerings	Sierra Pacific Synod (Tithe)	\$3,600.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,600.00
Registration for 2 people + hotel	Synod Assembly	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
	Taxes	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
						\$4,200.00
	Worship Musician (65 services, \$75 per)	\$4,875.00	\$300.00	\$375.00	\$675.00	
	Worship Supplies	\$750.00	\$14.94	\$359.00	\$373.94	\$376.06
TOTAL GENERAL EXPENSES		\$15,675.00	\$4,752.94	\$734.00	\$5,486.94	\$10,188.06
PASTOR COMPENSATION						
	Housing	\$15,000.00	\$1,250.00	\$1,250.00	\$2,500.00	\$12,500.00
	Salary (+\$7,812.40 Pastor's pre-tax) *	\$30,025.00	\$2,516.82	\$2,516.82	\$5,033.64	\$24,991.36
TOTAL PASTOR COMPENSATION		\$45,025.00	\$3,766.82	\$3,766.82	\$7,533.64	\$37,491.36
		\$52,618.50				
PASTOR EXPENSES						
	Continuing Education	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$29.00	\$29.00	\$71.00
	Mileage (.7250/mile)	\$1,000.00	\$18.90	\$28.28	\$47.18	\$952.82
(Health, Dental, Retirement)	LCA Portico (includes \$7,812.40 above)	\$26,000.00	\$2,163.64	\$2,163.64	\$4,327.28	\$21,672.72
	Substitute Pastor	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL PASTOR EXPENSES		\$27,100.00	\$2,182.54	\$2,220.92	\$4,403.46	\$22,696.54
UTILITIES						
	Electricity	\$1,600.00	\$186.38	\$162.86	\$349.24	\$1,250.76
	Garbage	\$400.00	\$21.67	\$21.67	\$43.34	\$356.66
	Heating	\$3,000.00	\$356.31	\$441.74	\$798.05	\$2,201.95
	Telephone	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$300.00
	Internet	\$1,400.00	\$109.00	\$109.00	\$218.00	\$1,182.00
	Water & Sewer	\$900.00	\$68.89	\$67.55	\$136.44	\$763.56
TOTAL UTILITIES		\$7,600.00	\$742.25	\$802.82	\$1,545.07	\$6,054.93
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$95,400.00	\$11,444.55	\$7,524.56	\$18,969.11	\$76,430.89

Women's Bible Study for March - April 2026

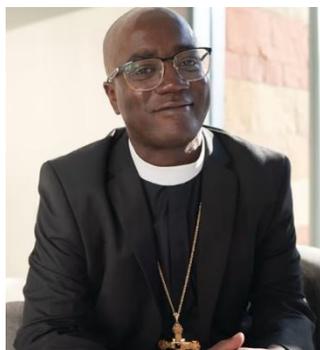


In March, we will continue the Bible Study called, “**Now Let Us Pray: Embodied Prayer**,” by Rev. Liv Larson Andrews. We are on the second session which is, “Praying with the Body of the Earth.” Due to Pr. Kendrah’s trip to Wisconsin, our next Bible Study will not be until **March 17th**. We will finish this study on **March 31st**.

The next Bible Study is called “**I AM: God’s Holy Name and Promise**” by Rev. Hannah Hawkinson. It is in three sessions as follows: 1) Bread, Vine and Light: Abiding with Us, 2) Gate and Shepherd: Guiding and Protecting Us, 3) Resurrection and Life: Leading Us into Abundant Life. The dates for April studies are the 14th and 28th.



News from the ELCA and our Bishop, Yehiel Curry



Bishop Curry has been very busy this year responding to many things which have happened nationally and globally. I have appreciated his comments on the following: *(If you are reading this digitally, you should be able to click on these links to go directly to the documents. Otherwise, you can go to www.elca.org/news to get to all of the statements.)*

<https://www.elca.org/news/bishop-curry-issues-statement-on-venezuela>

<https://www.elca.org/news/bishop-curry-issues-statement-on-ice-shooting-in-minneapolis>

<https://www.elca.org/news/canada-denmark-u-s-lutheran-bishops-issue-joint-statement-supporting-greenlandic-people>

<https://www.elca.org/news/presiding-bishop-curry-and-minnesota-synod-bishops-condemn-immigration-activity>

<https://www.elca.org/news/bishop-curry-and-faith-leaders-urge-humane-policies-in-dhs-negotiations>

<https://www.elca.org/news/bishop-curry-issues-statement-on-iran-war>

A Matthew 25 Lenten Practices Toolkit

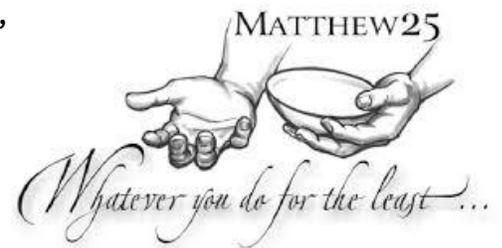
<https://lentenchallenge.org/toolkit>

Throughout Lent...(It's never too late to start!)

Grounded in **Matthew 25:37–40** ³⁷Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' ⁴⁰And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.'

Weekly Focus:

- WEEK 1 – “I was hungry and you gave me food.”
 - **We are encouraging members to give \$1 per day** (or more or less as they are able) **for 40 days throughout Lent.**
- WEEK 2 – “I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink.”
- WEEK 3 – “I was a stranger and you welcomed me.”
- WEEK 4 – “I was naked and you gave me clothing.”
- WEEK 5 – “I was sick and you visited me.”
- WEEK 6 – “I was in prison and you visited me.”



Ongoing practices:

- **Subscribe** online to / read **daily devotions**
- **Pray** for elected leaders
- **Journal** daily and/or post a daily pic (on social media) during Lent:
 - When and where did you see Jesus?
- **Read and study** Matthew 25
- **Donate** to ELCA World Hunger using the **Appeal Code R2LENT2026** or donate to ELCA World Hunger here: <https://give.elca.org/page/77595/donate/1> This can be done online or through the church (indicate in memo field of checks or on envelope that the donation is for this purpose)
- **Consider registering on-line to share that you are participating:**
<https://lentenchallenge.org/take-action>

Diving deeper into Lent by [Audrey Novak Riley](#)

Audrey Novak Riley was the former director for stewardship and development, Women of the ELCA. This post first appeared on the Women of the ELCA blog in March 2015.



Lent, to me, is an opportunity to swim a little further, splash a little higher, dive a little deeper into the waters of baptism that washed me up on the shore at Jesus’ feet so many years ago.

The ancients have given us a classic triad of Lenten practices—prayer, fasting, almsgiving—and I find them useful guides to my own Lenten observance. What about you?

Prayer: I experiment with forms of prayer that aren’t familiar to me during Lent. This year I’m practicing contemplative prayer. The distractions of home (particularly the four-footed distraction who’s sure that my sitting still indicates a deep need for feline attention) aren’t conducive to that form of prayer, so I’m taking part in the contemplative prayer services offered at my church. How about you? How are you reaching out toward God more intentionally during Lent?

Fasting: The fourth-century pilgrim, Egeria, noted that in Jerusalem, those who can fast during Lent, do; those who can’t, don’t; all do what they can and no one shames anyone. That refusal to judge—including judging ourselves—is a good example for our own daily lives. Building the habit of loving our neighbors in thought as well as in action is a wonderful Lenten practice. I try (really, really hard) to think kind thoughts about the other drivers sharing the road with me on the way to and from work each day. How about you? How do you love your neighbor more consciously this Lent?

Almsgiving: Maybe Lent can be a special time for giving to our women’s organization. When we give to Women of the ELCA, our gifts support our grants and scholarships programs, our many free program resources, BoldCafe.org, Bold Connections, *Gather*, our website, and so much more. Maybe Lent is the time for each of us to consider renewing our giving, recalling that Jesus’ earthly ministry was supported by the women disciples “who gave out of their resources” (Luke 8:3). I made a decision not long ago to give to Women of the ELCA regularly, and I acted on it. How about you? How are you giving more purposefully during Lent?

One of the things I love most about Lent is that no matter how ragged our attempts at spiritual renewal turn out to be this year, any effort is worth making. And we get to do it again next year!