



the word

March 2017 | Monthly News from Crown of Life Church

Mark Your Calendar

3/1

Ash Wednesday

3/2

Pioneer Meeting

3/4

Spelling Bee/Math Quiz Bowl St. Croix

3/10

Lower Grade Musical

3/11

Pioneer District Pine Car Derby

3/12

Daylight Savings Time Starts

3/16

Pioneer Meeting

3/20 - 3/24

SPRING BREAK

How Satan Approaches You

BY PASTOR ZACHARY PUDLO

The season of the Church year that leads up to Easter is called the season of Lent. It's a season of turning to God...turning to him in sorrow over sin, and turning to him for forgiveness from sin. The Gospel lesson on the first Sunday in Lent happens to be the temptation of Jesus in the desert. There are certainly a number of important spiritual truths to take away from this lesson where Satan tempts Jesus for 40 days straight.

First, Satan comes in a very real way. There are many people who would say and think of Christians, "You believe that Satan is real? How naive!" Believe it or not, there are even "Christian" churches that don't believe Satan is real. But let's consider the alternative of this. If Satan isn't real, who is responsible for all the evil and wickedness in the world? The answer would have to be: human beings. We are solely responsible for the human trafficking and mass murder. We are solely responsible for the bigotry and the countless ongoing wars. We are solely responsible for every form of evil. That's what it means to say Satan isn't real. However, to say that Satan does exist does not imply humans are off the hook. But it certainly does help to know what you are up against. It helps to know your enemy before you can develop some strategies to counter his attacks.

"Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil." (Matthew 4:1) If Satan was bold enough to come and tempt the Son of God in a very real way, how much more won't he come to you and to me and tempt us in very real ways? Friend, be on your guard, the tempter comes in very real ways to all of us.

continued

Second, he comes when you least expect it. Matthew, Mark, and Luke all record the temptation of Jesus. And while they vary in the degrees of details, they all record the temptation as an event that took place immediately after Jesus was baptized. Think about the amazingly high moment Jesus went through at his baptism. Having begun his public ministry, God the Father announced how happy and pleased he was with his son. "This is my son whom I love. With him I am well-pleased." (Matthew 3:17) What a great feeling Jesus must have had as he came out of the river knowing how happy God in heaven was with him.

But immediately following this very high and joyful moment in his life came a very low and difficult time. 40 days of no food in a desert was followed by temptations from the ultimate deceiver himself. Going from water to desert, limitless love to terrible temptation...this could not have been an easy task, even for the Son of God.

No doubt, this is how Satan operates with you and me as well. Maybe there are times when you feel especially good about life. You have been experiencing joys, successes, and the warmth of God's love is filling your heart. And then, WHAM! Right when you least expect it comes your own desert. A time of drought. A time of temptation. Satan knows just the right time to attack. He knows our particular weaknesses and how to exploit them. He knows how to lead us to the exact environments that will put the most strain on our faith. He comes when you least expect it.

Finally, he comes with promises. "Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. 'All this I will give you,' he said, 'if you will bow down and worship me.'" (Matthew 4:8-9) There's the promise he gave to Jesus.

"Just one time, just this one little thing, just take one knee and worship me. If you do, you'll have so much more power." That's the very real promise he gave to Adam and Eve as well in the Garden of Eden. "Just take this one piece of fruit and your eyes will be opened to see the truth." What a promise!

He does that to you and me as well. "Just this one sin. It's just a small sin. No one has to know. It will make you happy. It will give you a sense of power, purpose and meaning." That's the promise Satan really tries to convince you of with every single sin. But the truth is, he can't deliver.

But consider his counterpart, the one true God. He makes lots of promises too. God promised to send a Savior in Genesis 3. He certainly followed through on that promise. And what about the promise of God to have the Savior be our substitute? At his baptism, Jesus showed he would do just that. God promised the Savior would be perfect. 40 days later, after fasting and facing some terrible temptations from Satan, and what do we have? A Savior who never gave in to one of those temptations.

Join me this Lent as we see some of the other promises God made and kept. Promises like, "It is finished...You will be with me in paradise...He is not here. He is risen, just as he said." Throughout Lent we will see many things including our many failures to resist temptations. But the best thing of all is a Savior who never failed...not even once. This Lent remember that Satan approaches you with an eye for your destruction. But more importantly, remember the God who approaches you only in love...only to draw you closer to him every day until, one day, you are actually in his arms.

It's Egg Hunt Season

The chickens have been working over time this year and Crown of Life is overrun with eggs for the stuffing. We need help stuffing, hiding, greeting, crafting, snacking, setting up and taking down. Donating more your thing? We could use candy or plastic eggs. Please drop off in the office by March 17.

Sign up on the website at: <http://church.crownoflifemn.org/volunteer/>



Egg Stuffing - March 21 – 1:00 pm WSP

Eagan Hunt Day - APRIL 8

WSP Hunt Day - APRIL 15

Locked at Lent

Stewardship | LUCAS BOEHM

Have you ever found yourself locked in or locked out? Have you ever walked to your locked car and reached for the keys only to realize that they were actually in the car? Have you ever thought you left a door open for that family member who was to be dropped off at home and they arrived to find no one home and no way in? Or how about that account that you couldn't access because you forgot the email and password combination no matter how many times you tried? Each of these scenarios requires one specific key to gain access and if you have ever experienced something similar to these situations, then you can relate to this — left to yourself, you naturally are locked in sin and locked out of heaven. The door is closed and there is no opening it. The joyful wedding celebration goes on and on, behind closed doors; the flock is exquisitely cared for in the pen with a guarded gate. The almighty God does not take his heavenly home — and the celestial celebration therein — lightly.



Lent is traditionally a forty day period during which Christians come face to face with sin and its ugly consequences. Some Christians model Lent after the fast that Jesus undertook in the wilderness in preparation for

dueling the devil's temptations.

Those forty days were but a miniscule reminder of what Jesus gave up for us and for all humanity. Jesus left heaven, constrained himself to human flesh and frailty and ultimately died. Jesus lived a perfect life and suffered a punishing death for our sin. Hanging on the cross, under God's wrath in our place, Jesus was shut off from God. The door to Life was forcefully and undeniably Slammed. Shut. On Jesus. "Once for all". May we never look to ourselves to gain heaven based on

what we do, what we give, or what we give up. We have no keys on us. May we remember Jesus' cross as God's key and how Jesus was locked at Lent.

REPORTS

TREASURER – Fiscal Year 7/16 to 6/17

January ended the fiscal year to date (FYTD) with \$1,252,697 in total income with expected budget income to be \$1,238,086 (\$14,610 above budget). Envelope Offerings are -\$134,825 less than budgeted. Expenses (FYTD) were \$1,373,114 which gave us a FYTD of a negative -\$120,417. All bills are paid to date. We owe \$40,000 to our special funds account. **Clear the Path** matching funds budgeted is \$148,776 above budget income. Total Clear the Path contributions as of 1-31-2016 totaled \$979,699 which were paid directly to reduce our loan balance down to \$398,458. *Questions to Perry Abel: treasurer@colwsp.org*

DEATH – Dianne Brecht died on 2/5/17, funeral with Pastor Kom on 2/9/17.

BAPTISM – Lincoln Paul Bolte son of Ryan and Katelyn Bolte on February 12 with Pastor Kom.

NEW MEMBERS

Troy and Julie Maag, children Garrett and Katelyn
Shad and Gail Larson, children Shad, Nellie, and Sloane
Steven and Raquel Berg, children Nicholas and Timothy

Pastor's Conference

It's a running joke that pastors only work on Sunday. But if you ever come into the church office on a weekday, you'll see your pastors hard at work. They work hard at sermons, visits to the shut-ins, members in the hospital and prospective members, along with many other tasks. Have you ever wondered, when do pastors get their own spiritual rest?

Did you know that your pastors also regularly attend pastor conferences? At these conferences God's word is shared with them! Besides being fed God's word for their spiritual growth, your pastors also have the opportunity for professional growth. On February 14th, Pastors Kom and Pudlo attended a conference at Salem Lutheran in Stillwater. Professor Earle Treptow, professor at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, gave an interactive seminar on the different beliefs and practices within Christendom on Marriage, Remarriage, and Divorce.

Continue to pray for your pastors as they continue to share God's word with you, and as they continue to seek their own spiritual and professional growth.

Night to Shine - Members in Motion

St. Croix Lutheran gave hundreds a reason to shine at a unique prom held Friday, February 10, 2017. The school hosted Night to Shine for people with special needs, thanks to a grant from the Tim Tebow Foundation. Night to Shine took place simultaneously, in all 375 locations, 50 states across the nation and 11 countries around the world!

From the moment guests arrive, they were treated like royalty receiving VIP treatment. The ladies were ushered through to hair and makeup. The guys enjoyed a shoe shine. Every moment, every detail and every memory made was special. There were corsages and boutonnieres, karaoke, limo rides, and of course, dancing! Every guest of Night to Shine experienced a red carpet welcome complete with

friendly paparazzi. The highlight of the night – every Night to Shine guest was crowned as a king or queen of the prom. All of the 200 honored guests were paired with a buddy for the night. Most buddies were student volunteers from St. Croix Lutheran. Nearly 400 volunteers contributed to Night to Shine and 75 of those were from Crown of Life, ranging from the 8th grade through retirement.

It was a good experience to meet someone with special needs and to hang out with them for the night. The party bus was awesome!
~ Jorden Schletty - Buddy

I knew it would be a special night, but I couldn't have imagined it to be anything close to what it was. It's hard to even tell someone about it without tearing up.
~ Carrie Kruse - Committee Floater

It was an awesome experience! A real expression of Christian love in action.
~ Marcia Stueber - Hospitality Service

It was so great to meet my guest for Night to Shine. We had an amazing time!
~ Lauren Wolfrath - Buddy

It was an unforgettable night for guests and hosts. My guest, Peter, was the best dancer I've ever met. I was impressed that after just having a hip replacement, he could still get down on one knee and propose.
~ Alexis VandenBosch - Buddy



"It's an opportunity to take people that are often on the fringes of society that perhaps don't feel special enough and give them a very firm reminder and assurance that they are indeed very special"
~ Lorna Kapanke – St. Croix Co-organizer



I smiled until my face hurt! I could not have been more proud of our St. Croix students!
~ Liz Oldfield – Hospitality Service



I got to experience the excitement and joy of seeing guests of honor walk the red carpet. It was such an honor to be able to be a part of such a wonderful evening.
~ Beth Rupprecht – Decorations & Red Carpet Fan



We feel so blessed to have been a part of this special event. The smiles, giggles, and laughs were so fun to share.
~ Dan and Lori Oberstadt – Limo Service



Did you know 1 in 10 families in Minnesota experience food insecurity?

During the month of March, our congregation is joining people of good will from across the state to help alleviate hunger. Minnesota FoodShare's March Campaign is the largest food drive in the state, and congregations like ours are at the heart of the campaign. Our goal at Crown of Life is to reach a combined total of 500 pounds/dollars.

100% of your contribution will go towards hunger relief.

Help us reach the 500 pound goal. Consider donating today!



MARCH CALENDAR

Wednesday, March 1

Ash Wednesday

4:00 pm Worship WSP
5:15 pm Light Dinner
6:30 pm Worship WSP
7:00 pm Worship EGN
8:00 pm Praise Band Reh

Thursday, March 2

2:30 pm Southview Sr. Living Service
6:30 pm Pioneers Regular Meeting

Friday, March 3

8:20 am Matins
10:00 am Good Samaritan

Saturday, March 4

SCL Spelling Bee & Math Quiz Bowl
5:00 pm Worship EGN

Sunday, March 5

8:00 am Worship WSP
9:00 am Worship EGN
9:15 am Education Hour-WSP
10:15 am Education Hour-EGN
10:30 am Worship WSP
12:00 pm Call Meeting
3:00 pm Bible Information Class

Monday, March 6

3:30 pm Lego Club
6:30 pm Worship WSP
7:00 pm Mary/Martha - WSP

Tuesday, March 7

6:30 pm Handbell Rehearsal
7:00 pm Evangelism
7:00 pm Technology Team

Wednesday, March 8

4:00 pm Worship WSP
5:15 pm Light Dinner
6:30 pm Worship WSP
7:00 pm Worship EGN

Thursday, March 9

2:30 pm Southview Sr. Living Service
7:00 pm Elders-WSP

Friday, March 10

8:00 am Matins & Muffins and Panera
6:30 pm Lower Grade Musical

Saturday, March 11

8:00 am Distrect Pine Car Derbies
5:00 pm Worship EGN

Sunday, March 12

Praise Service

Daylight Saving Time starts

8:00 am Worship WSP
9:00 am Worship EGN
9:15 am Education Hour-WSP
10:15 am Education Hour-EGN
10:30 am Worship WSP
3:00 pm Bible Information Class

Monday, March 13

6:30 pm Worship WSP
7:30 pm Worship Committee

Tuesday, March 14

9:00 am Mom's Time-EGN
6:30 pm Education Properties
6:30 pm Handbell rehearsal
7:15 pm Stewardship

Wednesday, March 15

4:00 pm Worship WSP
5:15 pm Light Dinner
6:30 pm Worship WSP
7:00 pm Worship EGN

Thursday, March 16

2:30 pm Southview Sr. Living Service
6:30 pm Pioneers Regular Meeting
7:00 pm Riverview Cemetery

Friday, March 17

8:20 am Matins

Saturday, March 18

5:00 pm Worship EGN

Sunday, March 19

8:00 am Worship WSP
9:00 am Worship EGN
9:15 am Education Hour-WSP
10:15 am Education Hour-EGN
10:30 am Worship WSP
3:00 pm Bible Information Class

Monday, March 20

SPRING BREAK - NO SCHOOL
6:30 pm Worship WSP

Tuesday, March 21

6:30 pm Handbell Rehearsal
7:00 pm Council-WSP

Wednesday, March 22

4:00 pm Worship WSP
5:15 pm Light Dinner
6:30 pm Worship WSP
7:00 pm Worship EGN

Thursday, March 23

2:30 pm Southview Sr. Living Service

Saturday, March 25

5:00 pm Worship EGN

Sunday, March 26

8:00 am Worship WSP
9:00 am Worship EGN
9:15 am Education Hour-WSP
10:15 am Education Hour-EGN
10:30 am Worship WSP
3:00 pm Bible Information Class

Monday, March 27

2:30 pm Lilydale Sr. Living Service
6:30 pm Worship WSP

Tuesday, March 28

9:00 am Mom's Time-EGN
6:30 pm Handbell Rehearsal
7:00 pm Youth & Adult Education

Wednesday, March 29

4:00 pm Worship WSP
5:15 pm Light Dinner
6:30 pm Worship WSP
7:00 pm Worship EGN

Thursday, March 30

2:30 pm Southview Sr. Living Service
6:30 pm Pioneer (boy) Leaders' Meeting

Friday, March 31

NO BUS SERVICE
8:20 am Matins

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

1 Joel Gerke
Rachel Montgomery
Kathy Patton
Nicholas Spott
Timothy Stettner
Charles Wagenknecht
2 Amber Neubauer
Jessica Rupprecht
Callie Waldhauser
Pat Weber
3 Joyce Boche
Brad Fuoss
Michelle Wirth
4 James Boyer
Meagan Gustafson
Ky Heak
5 Audrey Adelman
Meredith Carlson
Donna Harley
Hunter Johnston
Keith Neubauer
Diane Wenker
6 Maggie Tuhy
7 Trinity Belmares
Nancy Klocow

7 Chad Little
8 Colin Fischbach
Robert Garcia
Olivia Nichols
9 Benjamin Bejblik
Rebekah Johnson
Wyatt Koker
10 Jeremy Burkhardt
11 Meghan Paul
John F. Schaefer
12 Katy Narog
Dave Rupprecht
Andrew Voigt
Katherine Voigt
Jonathan Wandersee
13 Lorelai Beebe
Grey Davis
Michael Frederick
Marggy Hei
Jordan Myhre
Bethany Otterstatter
Dustin Sievert
14 Paula Gaedtk
Kristina Gurgel
Jeffrey Jensen

14 Bobbi Jo Lander
Christopher McCall
Pearl Wegwerth
17 Gregory Bethke
Rachelle Danner
David Lemmer
Ryan Schroeder
Kaleb Wiplinger
18 Jon Otterstatter
Alexis Simonette
19 Seth Beebe
Olivia Footh
Darrell Isebrand
20 Elizabeth Duff
Rachelle Johnston
Bobby Marrier
Vincent Rider
21 Megan Diaz
Jill Kock
Daniel Lemmer
22 Jordan Fox
Darlene Lucas
Emma Ohm
23 Joshua Gorsky
Tyler Swiderski

23 Callum Tess
Evan Wilson
24 Nicholas Kapanke
Todd Olson
Trent Wieden
26 Steven Boche
Matthew Fetzer
Maija Mullins
Marley Mullins
Nicole Paul
27 Stanley Bougie
David Danner
Malachi Hulse
28 Jordan Johnson
Michael Marzinske
29 John Franz
Marion Franzmeier
Sean Grasz
Debra Hunter
Mike Koker
Alexander Yoder
30 Tye Lander
Kdee Lemmer
Allyse Schletty
Jan Tako

6th Grade Conquers New Challenges

From a new schedule to a new teacher, this year may have seemed tricky at first for these 6th graders, but now that we are about halfway through the 3rd quarter everyone has adjusted nicely. One huge change from last year is lockers. Making sure the lockers are clean is our new daily routine. These students help each other out and hold their classmates accountable for everything that goes on both in and out of the classroom.

This close-knit 6th grade shows great school spirit during this year's spirit week.



4th grade 3D String Art



3rd grade Aboriginal Dream Paintings



7th grade
Tornado Op Art

JUST FOR FUN



?? GUESS WHO

HINTS

- Born in New London, WI
- Former member of the full time education committee
- Likes to golf in spare time
- Huge Packer Fan

WORD SCRAMBLE

____ _
NNEEEERGS

____ _
MEDTPTE

____ _
HINES

____ _
AVIROS

ANSWERS TO FEBRUARY PUZZLES: WORD SCRAMBLE – BASKETBALL, IDENTITY, LOVE, VALENTINE, CAMP OUT, BLESSINGS

MOVIE REVIEW

“Hidden Figures”

DIRECTED BY THEODORE MELFI | BASED ON A TRUE STORY

July 20, 1969 man went to the moon. If you are old enough, you probably remember exactly where you were, what you were doing and who you were with when Apollo 11 blasted off, traveled the almost 240,000 miles and landed Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin on the surface of the moon with the now-famous words “one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind.” What the public was not aware of, and what this movie has so brilliantly brought to light, was the talented, hard-working, dedicated African-American women who worked for NASA behind-the-scenes in order for our astronauts to reach the moon safely. The fact is that these mathematicians and engineers were helping accomplish this feat at a time when segregation and racial tension was at a high in the US.

The story follows three women’s – Katherine Johnson (Taraji P. Henson), Dorothy Vaughn (Octavia Spencer) and Mary Jackson (Janelle Monae) – struggles and persistence in a male dominated field while they served a vital role in NASA during the early years of the US space program.

This film was humorous, poignant, historical, well-acted and pertinent to all generations, even if you don’t remember the moon landing. Hidden Figures is a must-see, and a movie you can watch with the entire family. It is nominated for three Oscars - best picture, best adapted screenplay and best supporting actress (Spencer) - and has already won several awards and done very well at the box office. It is still currently playing in theaters, so catch it before it leaves!



Please direct ideas, questions or comments about this issue to ZacharyPudlo@crownoflifemn.org



CROWN OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

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