

THE BEACON

Sunday Adult Forum

Beginning on Sunday, January 28, and continuing for 6 weeks, Pastor Dean will lead an important adult study in the Fellowship Room at 10:00 am. The study is very timely given what has been happening in the entertainment industry and with government officials. We will study the ELCA draft social statement on Women and Justice. Each participant will receive a copy of this statement. Remember, the ELCA does not write policies and expect all congregations across the nation to abide by them. Instead, professional and compassionately written social statements are put into place that give all ELCA congregations guidance for how they might look at and handle various social issues. There are many social statements that have already been put into place and they can all be found and reviewed on the ELCA web site---elca.org. Since this is a draft statement, it means that everyone who participates in our congregational study will be invited to submit a personal and confidential response form to the Task Force responsible for presenting a final copy of the statement for adaptation at an ELCA National Assembly. Please join us for this important study. Pastor Dean will provide all the things you need. This is a good place for adults who have children in Sunday school or confirmation to be while waiting for their kids. It is a good place for others of all ages and genders as well.

Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday begins the season of Lent on February 14 this year. We will worship in the sanctuary that evening at 6:30 pm. Our worship service will include the traditional imposition of ashes and Holy Communion after a time of corporate forgiveness. There will be no instrumentation at this service. The choir will be singing several appropriate Lenten hymns acapella. Ash Wednesday is a time for quiet contemplation and personal meditation as we hear the words, *“remember you are dust and to dust you shall return.”*

Book Club-2018 reads

The Lakeview Book Club gets together every first Monday of the month at 6:30pm in the Fellowship Room for discussion. Anyone is welcome to attend. The following is the month by month list of titles that we have chosen to read and discuss.

Feb. 5 – “A Gentleman in Moscow” by Amor Towles

Mar. 5 – “Curious Charms of Arthur Pepper” by Phaedra Patrick

Apr. 2 – “The Sympathizer” by Viet Thanh Nguyen

May 7 – “Old World Murder” by Kathleen Ernst

June 4 – “Tribe” by Sebastian Junger

July 2 – “Wolf Hollow” by Lauren Wolk

Aug. 6 – “The Black House” by Peter May

Sept. 4 (Tues.) – “Braving It” by James Campbell

Oct. 1 – “The Unremembered Girl” by Eliza Maxwell

Nov. 5 – “The Hate U Give” by Angie Thomas

Dec. 3 – TBD

Feb. 4, 2019 – “They Marched Into Sunlight” by David Maraniss

Souper Bowl Offering

Our tradition at Lakeview is to receive a special offering on Super Bowl weekend that goes to a food serving organization. On this weekend we remember the amount of money that many of us will spend on food and drink as we watch the Super Bowl football game—*even if our team isn't playing*. And we share some of those resources with others who have needs. This year, all money collected on Feb 3/4, in the special Souper Bowl offering, will go to the Friends of State Street Family. This private, non-profit group provides food and first aid to folks who remain on the street in Madison. Some of these folks have been removed from shelter or used up their days in shelter. Some of these folks choose not to use shelters for a variety of reasons. So this group has begun a very stable and useful resource here. They also provide a weekly meal at the new Beacon Day Shelter. Many volunteer opportunities exist with Friends of State Street. You can check them out at their web site www.friendsofthestatestreetfamily.org. Make checks to Lakeview so we can credit your giving statements. Bring them to worship on Feb 3/4. Cash is welcome, too, but can only be credited if we have your name. It is the council goal to raise \$1000 for this important local ministry. Thank you for supporting Souper Bowl 2018 at Lakeview and may the best team win!!!

Church Council Installation

On Sunday, Feb 4, we will install the church council that you elected at the annual meeting. The 2018 council includes:

Gayle Langer	President
Amy Luebke	Vice President
Patty Manier	Secretary
Linda Schaack	Treasurer
Darlene Wood	Dir. of Outreach
Sandy Rupnow	Dir. of Education
Jim Foye	Dir. of Facilities
Todd Schaack	Dir. of Strategic Planning

We give thanks for these 8 very fine people who have agreed to lead this congregation in the upcoming year.

Luther College Symphony Orchestra

Chase away the chill of winter by surrounding yourself with stirring classical music! The Luther College Symphony Orchestra, under the direction of Daniel Baldwin, will perform at 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 4, at Sun Prairie Performing Arts Center, 888 Grove St., Sun Prairie. The concert is part of the Symphony Orchestra's 2018 Midwest Tour. The program will include Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 5 in E minor and William Grant Still's "Ennanga," for harp, piano and strings. The concert is open to the public with a freewill donation taken at the door. There is no charge for students.

Red Beans and Rice Mardi Gras Event

Plan to join the youth on Sunday, Feb 11 between 5:00 and 6:30 pm in East Hall. They will sponsor their annual Red Beans and Rice Fundraiser. Red beans are made with beans, green peppers, onions, celery, smoked ham and Andouille sausage. They are served with white rice. This is a Monday food tradition in New Orleans just like a Friday fish fry is a tradition in Wisconsin. The youth hope you will join them at this meal. The meal also includes salad, French bread and the very traditional New Orleans beignets. Beignets are square donuts fried and covered in powdered sugar. There is nothing to NOT love about beignets except the calories. The kids will not be selling tickets this year, like usual, but instead this will be a free-will

offering meal. We hope people will consider making at \$10 donation or \$6 for kids. But of course, a larger donation will not be turned

away! There will also be hot dogs for kids or adults who don't eat red beans. And there will be a vegetarian bean option. Come and enjoy authentic food and great fellowship.

Renewal Services

There will be no Services of Renewal in the chapel during February or March, due to Wednesday evening Lenten presentations.

February Senior Lunch/Euchre

Save the date: Monday, Feb 19, 11am will be the senior lunch/euchre tournament. Please sign up for this event at the Information Station. The menu includes baked ham, cheesy hash browns, green beans, tropical fruit salad, dessert and beverages. Euchre tourney follows with top three scores winning prizes provided by our friends at NESCO. Free will offering.



Art: "Gary, save me some green bean casserole!"

Gary: "Do you think you still have room on your plate?!"

A WORD FROM PASTOR DEAN

Dear Friends,

In the book of Exodus, we have a story of Moses on the mountain of God and God coming to him in a burning bush. You are familiar with that story. Moses and God have a conversation. God tells Moses that it is time to respond to the cries of the Israelites who are struggling in slavery in the land of Egypt. God recognizes their misery and tells Moses that he is being called to lead the people out of Egypt. Then Moses asks God what God's name is. Moses wants to tell the Israelites who this God is that will release them from captivity. And God responds to Moses by saying, "*I Am who I Am. Thus say to the people that I Am has sent me.*"

God is who God is, a loving, forgiving, grace filled God who loved the world enough to give it a Savior. God is a God who creates, redeems and saves because God loves the world so much. "*I Am who I Am.*" You don't change God. You accept God for who God is. And that's just fine.

In a sense we are like that. I am who I am. I'm a white, 61 year old, heterosexual male, husband, father and grandfather. I'm a parish pastor in the Lutheran church who can be sarcastic, offensive and insulting. I am a man who speaks my mind and sometimes I speak without thinking. I am who I am. You can't change me. You can accept me for who I am but in order to do that, you have to know me and understand how and why I function the way I do.

Our theme this year in Lent is going to be "I am who I am." Each Wednesday evening during Lent, at 6:30 pm, in the sanctuary, we are going to hear presenters talk about who they are. We are going to sit down in an intimate environment and hear people express who they are and what that means for their lives—joys and sorrows. When we get to know people in this way, we can become much more able to accept them as they are. Although I have not yet arranged exact dates for all the presenters I can tell you that we will hear from the following:

- A male sex offender who has returned to live in the community of Madison
- An ELCA bishop---the one from our synod
- A transgendered woman
- A teenager who is an undocumented DREAMER and now at risk for deportation
- A director of the Freedom from Religion organization here in Madison.

I hope that you are willing and able to join us for each of these presentations. I believe that education and personal relationships help us to better understand people and give us the desire to be caring and sensitive to "who they are." It is my goal that we learn ways to tear down barriers and build bridges as we hear from some wonderful people during Lent. We are all who we are and we all wish to be accepted and loved for who we are. Most of us do not appreciate or welcome the idea that we have to be someone else or that we have to change.

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 14, with meditative and somber worship at 6:30 pm. For the following 5 weeks we will gather for presentations at that same time every Wednesday. We will conclude by 7:30 pm. All are welcome and all are welcome to come as you are because each of you "is who you are."

Peace, Pastor DEAN

**Inside:
Sunday Adult Bible Study
Souper Bowl
Lent Speakers**

www.lakeviewlutheranchurch.org

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Chris Anders, Ministry Coordinator, coordinator@lakeviewlutheranmail.org

Lynn Najem, Organist/Choir Director; Gary Cragin, Custodian

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8:30-4:30

Service Schedule:

5:00pm Saturday

9:00am Sunday

NEWSLETTER OF:
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