

THE BEACON

Youth Fruit Sale

The annual youth fruit sale will go until 10:00 am on Sunday, March 4. If you haven't ordered your fruit, do so very soon. Be sure to pay for your fruit when you order. Checks made to Lakeview. The youth will be in the narthex each weekend or you can order in the church office during the week. Fruit will be delivered on March 10 and you will be able to pick up your order at worship services that weekend.

Book Group

Monday, March 5 at 6:30pm Lakeview book group will be discussing, "The Curious Charms of Arthur Pepper" by Phaedra Patrick. The discussion is held in the Fellowship Room. Anyone is welcome.

Food Pantry Collection

The second weekend in March is 10/11 and that is our monthly food pantry collection. On this weekend, you are invited to bring cold boxed/bagged cereal to worship and place it on the donation cart at the front of the sanctuary. All varieties of cereal will be appreciated.

March Senior Lunch/Euchre

Come join the St. Patrick's Day festivities on Monday, March 12. A corned beef & cabbage lunch featuring Irish beers will be served at 11am in East Hall. Please sign up for this free will offering event at the Information Station before Thurs., March 8. Euchre will follow the meal

Easter Weekend

The youth will sponsor an Easter Breakfast on Sunday, April 1. It will be held in East Hall. Easter weekend worship services:

Mar 31-5:00 pm Easter Vigil

Apr 1-7:30 am First Light Easter

Apr 1-9:00 am Easter Festival Service

Apr 1-10:30 am Easter Festival Service

for the card players in the crowd. Prizes awarded to the top 3 scores are being provided by our partners at NESCO.

Guest Speakers in Lent

Our mid-week Lenten program continues in March. The theme of the mid-week presentations is "I Am Who I Am." Hopefully many people will take advantage of the uniqueness of having these speakers here in our sanctuary in an intimate environment to share their stories. All Wednesday evening presentations begin at 6:30 pm in the sanctuary. They will conclude by 7:30 pm. Each evening there will be a time for questions. As the hosts of presenters, our job is to hear their story and offer hospitality. We do not come to be critical, to put people on the defensive or to tell them we agree or disagree with them. We grow and learn about God's people by truly listening to them and that's what we will do here. Guests are welcome.

Feb 28 Annie Laurie Gaylor, co-founder of the Freedom from Religion Organization, here in Madison. Ms. Gaylor will focus on separation of religion and state. Her husband, an accomplished piano player, will share music.

Mar 07 Juan, a Verona High School Student who was brought to our area as a child and is undocumented. He is a DREAMER and must live with the pressure of the United States Government's decisions about immigrants.

Mar 14 Bishop Mary Froiland, our bishop in the South Central Synod of Wisconsin. Bishop Mary will talk about the role of a bishop and about the process for electing a bishop, which will take place at our synod assembly in May.

Mar 21 Ginger, a trans woman, who works at Outreach here in Madison. Ginger will share her story about transitioning to identify as a female and how that has impacted her daily life. She will give advice for how we can support others who are gender-fluid and not able to fit easily into a gender binary culture.

FINAL Road Home in March

As you are aware, the Road Home Shelter Program will end and we will host the Road Home guests for the final two weeks of the program. That means our guests will arrive in the building on March 18 and depart on Easter, April 1. We will NOT be assisted by Burke Lutheran during this host period. Road Home staff wished to have a two-week stay for this final period and we were willing to take on the challenge. So, we need everyone to step up and give a hand with Road Home for this final time. Chris Anders will need lots of volunteers (you can even volunteer more than once). But, also, this will be your last opportunity to serve in this ministry so step forward and let Chris know how and when you can help. We will be serving 14 dinners so we'll need plenty of help there, too, and of course, like always, we'll have a sign up to donate food for those two weeks. Volunteers

will unload the truck on March 18 and volunteers will load the truck Easter Sunday morning. We have appreciated Lakeview's very dedicated and hardworking volunteers in this ministry and want this to be a great week for everyone, especially those in shelter, for this final period of time.

Passion Weekend

As usual, the choir, Sunday school children and other musicians will lead the congregation through the passion, death and burial stories of Jesus at worship on March 24 and 25. Both services that weekend will be the same and led by the musicians. Communion is served at both. This is the important part of the story that should be heard before we celebrate the resurrection.

Maundy Thursday and Good Friday

Over the past years, we have struggled with what to do with Maundy Thursday (March 29) and Good Friday (March 30). Our Lutheran tradition is that we worship on these days and celebrate Jesus washing his disciples' feet and recall his final Passover meal with them. On Good Friday we remember the crucifixion. Lifestyles and cultures change over time and we've learned that attendance at these worship services is very, very poor. Last year we held Bible studies at noon in place of worship and had a bigger attendance than at the actual worship services the previous year. This year, there will be casual Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services in the sanctuary at noon on March 29 and March 30. We will remember the story of Jesus washing his

disciples' feet, his breaking of the bread and establishing the holy meal and our call to go and do likewise. Communion will be celebrated on Maundy Thursday. On Good Friday, our focus will be on the cross and no communion will be served. All are welcome to attend these services. They will both be about 40 minutes in length for those who wish to return to work.

Inclusive and Expansive Language

Our worship services include inclusive language for humankind and expansive language for God. Altering language is not always about our personal feelings but about how we can make a relationship with God safer for others through the language we use. We do this as we study the ELCA Draft Statement on Women and Justice. If you are wondering why a language change is important, you are invited to attend the study every Sunday morning at 10:00 am in the Fellowship Room.

Hire-A-Kid

Ellie Haselow-dogwalking, babysitting, general pet-care in the Cherokee or nearby neighborhoods. Call Dave Haselow at 608-770-2708

Ben Luebke-yard work, shoveling, dog walking in Waunakee, Deforest, Sun Prairie or northside Madison. Call Amy Luebke at 608-220-8379.

Dane Luebke-yard work, shoveling and can drive if you need someone to run errands for you in Waunakee, Deforest, Sun Prairie or

northside Madison. Call Amy Luebke at 608-220-8379.

New Members

If you wish to become a member of Lakeview, or if you know someone who wishes to join this congregation, please contact Pastor Dean directly in the church office. He will arrange to meet individually with those wishing to become members. The discussion he has includes an overview of the ELCA and the connection we have to the synod. He discusses the history of this congregation and current staffing. He talks about the budget and the need for members to support the budget in order to accomplish ministry. Information sheets and pledge cards are given to potential members at this meeting and when they return that information, they are made members and put into our computer record keeping system and an envelope number is assigned. In 2017 the following became members of Lakeview Lutheran Church:

Tayrn and Michael Lantz

Patricia Anderson

Katherine Weber

Erik Silgman

Linette Haas

Lucy Ghastin

Financial Support And Plan for Ministry

At the annual meeting, in January, you passed a plan for ministry for 2018 that expects a 2018 expenditure of \$316,201 to provide staff,

maintain the buildings and grounds, offer worship, weddings, funerals, baptisms, education and a variety of additional ministry. If you divide the annual budget by 52 weeks, you can see that we need a weekly offering of \$6062. At the meeting, pledge cards were distributed to allow you the opportunity to share how you can support this ministry. Those who did not turn in a pledge card on that day received an invitation to pledge and a card in the mail. Many have been returned and you are still invited to return your card. We get to support ministry at Lakeview with our dollars, our time and our unique talents. That's what disciples of Jesus are called to do and we have been doing that well with excitement and enthusiasm here. Ministry cannot happen without financial support. This congregation cannot exist without financial support. This congregation and ministry also cannot exist without many, many hours of volunteer time and sharing of unique gifts. At the annual meeting we learned that this congregation did an excellent job of supporting the church budget and additional ministry in 2017. It was a very good feeling to see what we had accomplished for the glory of God and for the good of people with various needs. We hope to continue that in 2018. We hope and pray that every member of this congregation continues to understand what it means to be a disciple and shares the resources they can to do ministry. Thank you for what you do.

Giving on Web Site

You got to church, you forgot your checkbook, you have no cash and you wanted to contribute to the special offering. What do you do? You go home. You go to the Lakeview website at www.lakeviewlutheranchurch.org. You click on the giving tab and pull up the Vanco Give+ program. There you can give by using your personal credit card or with a personal check. The screens will direct you through the easy process to do this. You can designate if you want this gift to be a one-time gift or if you want it to be ongoing. You can choose from several categories to direct your gift. You can even download the Vanco Give+ app and use it during the offering at worship. We are bringing giving into the present and making it simple for everyone. Do note that there are fees that the church incurs when you give online. They are small and they are greater for credit card giving than giving by check. But the service is there for you to use as you need to. And people have given through this program since we implemented it last summer. (Pastor Dean has tested both the credit card and check and it works well.)

Food Pantry Volunteer

Gretchen Macht is looking for one or two people to do shopping for the food pantry once per week. Time commitment would be a couple of hours. Depending on the needs, it could be for such things as personal care items from the Dollar Store or it could mean finding the best buy for cereal or canned

products and purchasing a couple of cases. This is an excellent opportunity for someone retired who would like to serve in our food pantry ministry. A car is required. Contact the church office if you can provide for this need---244-6181.

Altar Flour

You have likely noticed that on some weekends, there is bread on the altar in place of flowers. That's because the person donating the \$35 for altar flowers has requested that their gift go to the ELCA World Hunger Program instead of toward actual flowers. Therefore their gift becomes altar "flour"---get it? When you sign up to donate altar flowers, if you wish to have your money go to world hunger note that when you sign up. Your gift will still be noted in the weekend worship book.

On-Line Photo Membership Directory

Even though we recently had a new "hard" copy church directory, we have an online church directory that you are invited to use regularly. The church directory is part of our Realm Record Keeping System. No one can access your information until you go to the directory site and set up your password and then your personal profile sheet. You can place up to two pictures on the directory site. You can then tell the directory to share your name, address, phone and email---just like a hard copy photo directory. You can limit the information that is accessible by others. Only members of Lakeview who set up a profile page can access this directory. Once you set

up your page, you will have personal access to check your individual giving statements and other information from Lakeview. The Realm system is where Pastor Dean sends his weekly news updates that many of you receive if you have an email in that system. So, enjoy this great directory but consider setting up your profile very soon if you haven't done so. You can access the directory from the front page of the church web site or contact Laura in the church office, if you have questions. Its how church directories will be in the future and with a directory like this, it is always up to date, unlike a hard copy directory.

Disaster Recovery Trip to Puerto Rico

Many people have been asking and here is what is happening. Pastor Dean has been in regular communication with Mennonite Disaster Services. We worked with them in Crisfield, MD and found the organization to be excellent in responding to people living in a disaster area. When Mennonite Disaster Services begins to take volunteers in Puerto Rico to assist with Hurricane Maria recovery,

we will send a group from Lakeview to help--- because that's who we are! So, in preparation for that, our Easter Butterfly Tree this year will raise money to assist our volunteers in their eventual travels to Puerto Rico. Butterflies are \$10 each and you can designate them to remember or honor someone. You can purchase multiple butterflies for multiple people. You can give gifts larger than \$10. Butterflies will decorate the sanctuary on Easter Sunday and the names of those being remembered or honored will be listed in the Easter worship books. Each year we try to offer a ministry option during Lent/Easter in addition to flowers that decorate our sanctuary. The flowers are very nice but many people would choose to have their flower money spent toward ministry that can benefit others. Some people choose to do both.

Souper Bowl

On "Souper" Bowl weekend we raised \$1774 and sent it to Friends of State Street Family! Thank you.

BOOK CLUB

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.

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

A WORD FROM PASTOR DEAN

Dear Friends,

As we move into spring (*yes it's coming*), I tend to think about the environment. I enjoy watching the grass, trees, plants, flowers, and animals return to life. For me natural green is so much better than the white of winter. And as I think of spring and new life for the environment, I think about our call as created beings in God's image to take care of all that God has made. In Genesis, humans are given the task of caring for the creation. We are called by God to have dominion, not domination, over all that God has given us.

So as I celebrate the return of plant and animal life in Wisconsin, I also mourn the destruction that people in our state and community do to the creation through chemicals and pesticides and fertilizers that are unnecessary. I grieve the use of such chemicals for aesthetic purposes because even though to some eyes, they make it look good, to many eyes and bodies it is destructive.

It will not take you much time to find plenty of studies to confirm the damage to ground water, air quality, and human and animal health done by chemicals spread in the environment. Most recently I read a very disappointing article on Channel 3000. Maybe you saw it, too. A young bald eagle was found in Sauk County with pesticide poisoning. According to the UW Veterinarian who took care of this majestic bird, the animal was suffering from organophosphate and carbamate toxicity. It doesn't matter that I can't pronounce those words. What does matter is that the doctor confirmed that these are common chemicals used in pesticides. It is likely that the eagle was exposed to these dangerous chemicals from feeding on smaller animals that consumed vegetation treated with these toxic pesticides.

Since I have experienced the majestic flight of bald eagles often around our cottage on Koonz Lake, this story particularly struck me. I have been concerned about tainted water and human health because of lawn and yard fertilizer for years and this story hit on a very sensitive part of me.

Many years ago, after Kris' fought with cancer, we made the decision to go chemical free at our house. No bleach, no chemically based laundry detergent, no cleaning products with chemicals and certainly no pesticides and chemicals in our yard. Dandelions, creeping Charlie, white clover are all part of the creation that we feel called to care for. And what we've found recently is that many others are no longer yielding to societal and neighborhood false ideas about using things to harm the environment. Even a realtor told us it would be a sales advantage to list our home as a chemical free property. The world is waking up!

This letter is not meant to judge the decisions you make. But it is meant to encourage you to think about those decisions as we see the dandelions and the maple trees greening out soon. As we welcome back the robins and other birds and wildlife, this letter is meant to help you think about what you might do to protect them. I invite you to explore becoming chemical free or to start by reducing your use of chemicals as we remember our call to take care of God's marvelous creation.

Peace,

Pastor DEAN

Butterflies for Mission Trip to Puerto Rico

Purchase butterflies at \$10 each to remember or honor someone at Easter. On Easter Sunday, there will be a butterfly on the butterfly tree with the name of every person being remembered or honored. Just complete this form and return with your cash or check.

Your name: _____ Amount enclosed: _____

In memory of: _____

In honor of: _____



Mardi Gras! – Red Beans and Rice served by the youth

Celebrating YOU-people of Lakeview!

For many years we have been very involved in the Road Home Shelter Program ministry. We have trained large numbers of volunteers at Lakeview and have had, literally, hundreds of other volunteers donate food, time, labor and money to Road Home.

Now the shelter program comes to an end.

We will grieve the end of this ministry and our past relationship with the Road Home staff and the many families we've met.

But we will also celebrate and give thanks for our congregation's generosity and hard work.

You're Invited! All of you are invited! Every single person!

Wednesday, April 11 (no cost, no free-will offering)

6:00 pm Dinner

East Hall-kids, spouses, partners, family, church members

The staff will be making homemade lasagna (something for veg heads and gluten-free folks, too)

Salad, French Bread, Beverages

Homemade Chocolate cake with Homemade Chocolate Frosting

Champagne toast!

Please RSVP by April 8, 2018

RSVP by signing up all names in the narthex or by calling or emailing the church office.

A very brief presentation from Road Home staff will be made at the dinner about future volunteer opportunities. This is not meant to be an evening program but an evening of good food and great fellowship for all the people of this congregation! We get to thank one another.

Be there!

**Inside:
An Invitation
Easter
FINAL Road Home**

www.lakeviewlutheranchurch.org

Dean M. Kirst, Pastor, pastordean@lakeviewlutheranmail.org

Laura Jasiczek, Office Administrator, office@lakeviewlutheranmail.org

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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A WARM AND CARING COMMUNITY SINCE 1856.