



Living Word Lutheran Church
Worship address: 2570 Northern Avenue
Mailing address 3880 Stockton Hill Rd. 103-300
Kingman, Arizona

March Devotion-

Reflections for Lent

Lent gives us an opportunity to take stock of our lives, to reconsider how we're living in light of God's presence and power made available to us in Jesus. And that's what Lent is for: to reflect on our lives as they are, and as they could be.

Giving up a habit or a food or a pleasure is not distinctly Christian. People give up things all the time in the name of self-help, or worse, vanity and vengeance. The point of Lent is to reorient life God-ward. This reorientation has to do with desert and wilderness.

A "wilderness experience" in our language usually means one has been gone for awhile and now returns with new insight or perspective, "a new lease on life." People are stripped of usual comforts, and forced to see the world from a different vantage point.

Our aim during Lent is something like a wilderness experience. We want to shake up our lives significantly enough that when we reach for our usual comforts we're forced to cling to Christ—His body, His blood. In Lent we focus on getting away from the life of flesh and into the life of the Spirit, denying our ways and embracing God's.

The point of giving things up isn't to be reminded of how much we miss them, but rather to be awakened to

how much we miss God and long for his life-giving Spirit. This means, of course, that Lent isn't only about giving up things. It's also about adding things, God-things.

- Having given up junk food for a healthy diet, what will you do with the energy you gain?
- Having given up Facebook, to whom will you devote meaningful conversation?
- Having given up lunch, how will you rely on God for the strength of "food from heaven"?
- Having given up TV as a default activity, how will you use that time to cultivate

Let us pray,

Merciful God, we come to you today realizing we are not how you want us to be. Help us let go of our past that we may turn toward you and live again the life of faith. Help us call out our fear and hatred, our anger and self-pity. Lift the burden they place on our shoulders. Help us set aside our guilt and enter a season of healing. As we pray and fast today, help us become simple people, that we may see you plainly. Let us draw near to you now.

Amen.



The practice of giving something up for Lent is a way of entering into the wilderness with Jesus. Don't worry about whether your sacrifice is a good one. It's not a contest. Just make your aim to know Christ more fully, and trust Him to lead you. Seek to replace that thing with devotion to Christ—his Word and His mission. God may lead you to give up and take up more as you go. That's good. Deny yourself, take up your cross, and follow Jesus.

Inside this issue:

March Devotion	1
Worship news	2
WOW information	3
Council information	4
Pastor's Note	4
March Calendar	5

Special points of interest:

- Baptisms Pg. 2
- Bottle Caps and Trash Bags Pg. 3
- March Celebrations Pg. 4

Adapted from an internet article by Matt Smethurst, editor of The Gospel Coalition



March Scriptures

3/1/20 Romans 5:12-29, Psalm 32, Matthew 4: 1-11

3/8/20 Romans 4:1-5, 13-17, Psalm 121, John 3:1-17

3/15/20 Romans 5:1-11, Psalm 95, John 4:5-42

3/22/20 Ephesians 5:8-14, Psalm 23, John 9:1-41

3/29/20 Romans 8:6-11, Psalm 130, John 11:1-45

Prayer Requests

For continuing comfort and healing

Carolyn Krick, Lelanie Exbom, Donna Kowalske, Pat Bingham, Vern Parsons, Sue Bernard, Cathy Bain, Char and Dale Matheny, Barbara McCord, Floyd Morris, Holly Vautier, Carol Wostal, Lula Stroud, Andrew Johnson

If you know of someone who should be included in the monthly ongoing prayer list, or you yourself would like to be included, please contact Pastor Michael (509-710-3283).



Lent began on 2/26/20,

Ash Wednesday. Pastor Michael spent the day visiting "Home Bound" members of Living Word, sharing a message of "Unbind

him, and let him go" (John 11:44) as well as Ashes and Communion. At 7 PM a worship service was held with singing, the message, Ashes and Communion. A total of 29 members of Living Word participated in this solemn preparation for the season before Easter.

Burying the Alleluias

The words "Alleluia" and "Hallelujah" are essentially the same words. Alleluia is the form used by the more liturgical churches and comes more directly the old Latin translation of the original Hebrew term. Hallelujah is used by more non-liturgical churches. Today though, with the advent of more contemporary songs, the words are almost considered the same.

The association of "Alleluia" with Easter led to the custom of intentionally omitting it from the liturgy during the season of Lent, a kind of verbal fast which has the effect, not of depressing the mood of the liturgy, but of creating a sense of anticipation and even greater joy when the familiar word of praise returns. Join us on March 1, 2020, the first Sunday of Lent, as the children of our congregation assist us to "Bury the Alleluias" for the Lenten Season.



Our Lenten Journey continues as we begin mid-week Devotions each Wednesday during Lent. Devotions will be at noon and again at 6 PM. Bring soup or other dish to share a light meal before group devotions.

To Seek and To Save

In our Worship Series for Lent, *To Seek and To Save*, we will follow Jesus as He turns toward Jerusalem and the cross. We will walk in His footsteps, from the miracle of raising Lazarus to His own empty tomb on Easter morning. This was the purpose for which Jesus had come-to seek and to save the lost.



Join us for worship on March 29 as we welcome several into our growing family of faith through Christian Baptism. We continue the celebration after worship with one of our special Pot Luck dinners! Don't miss this wonderful Sunday!



W.O.W. (Women of the Word)

For the February meeting, The Women of the Word (W.O.W.) group met and viewed the movie "Drop Box", the story of a pastor in South Korea who made it his mission to help save newborns and abandoned children,. Members brought movie type snacks (YES! Popcorn!)

Due to busy schedules in March (church St. Patrick's lunch after worship on 3/15 and work on landscaping project) and April (Easter morning breakfast, window project and Easter

boxes for families in need) there will be no W.O.W. meetings in either March or April. A social lunch and outing is planned for the May meeting.

All women who attend church at Living Word are members of W.O.W. (Women of the Word) and are encouraged to join in activities to serve and support our church.

Please contact
Donna Pederson (928-753-3762) or
Karen Shaffer (775-513-8367) for
more information!

Join your Sisters in Christ!



Midweek Lenten Devotions

3/4/20 That One Man Should Die We will hear in God's word the prophecy of Israel's high priest: It is better that one man should die than the whole nation perish. That one man is the God-man, Jesus Christ. He died to free us from our sins.

3/11/20 For My Burial We will see how Jesus is anointed ahead of time for His burial, an act of love and devotion by Mary, the sister of Martha and Lazarus. We have been anointed by the water and Word and Spirit of baptism.

3/18/20 Up to Jerusalem Jesus told His disciples what lay ahead for him in Jerusalem and, obedient to His heavenly Father, He took up His final steps to the cross.

3/25/20 The Cup That I Drink We often think of ourselves first, before we think of the needs of others. Two of Jesus' disciples do the same, as they make a special request of the Savior.

Join us at noon or 6 PM every Wednesday in March! Bring soup or other dish to share a light meal!

Mexico Mission Projects

Living Word is discontinuing collection of bottle caps and trash bags as part of our support for Mexico missions for the present. There have been no recent trips to Mexico and none are scheduled in the immediate future. Thanks for all your past efforts!



Living Word Council Minutes-Meeting Summary 1/6/20

Pastor Michael Birnbaum, Pastor Assistant Eileen Pressler, President Ken Bourlier, Vice-President Bob Pressler, Treasurer Arlene Allison, Mission Coordinator Rosie Freeman & Secretary Sharon Peterson. Meeting opened with prayer. Minutes from last meeting approved

Pastor's Report: Small groups are starting: Professional women's group, yoga, Saturday morning support group. Pastor is looking to reconstruct our pastoral care teams. We continue to have new members and it seems to be a consensus that, as a church, we need more Sunday services for our members to grow and to be challenged to grow spiritually. Would like us to start thinking of what the next small group might be, whom it would be intended to serve.

The new cross is here. Thank you to Greg Jensen's family. The men came together to install it. This is making our church more visible. A number of members have asked about church security. My response has been 'we have at least two men each Sunday armed'. Pastor just wanted to make sure that this is correct, council responded with yes.

Pastor Assistant: Pastor Michael will be off on 1/19 & 2/16. Pastor Steve Bergeson is confirmed for 1/19. Still need coverage for 2/16. Celebration Sunday 1/5, was great. Not only January's Birthdays, but also honoring John and Debra Cronsell as they leave for Arkansas. Began mailing hard copies of the newsletters to members unable to attend on a regular basis. Would like to have council consider the purchase of a laser/printer/copier/fax.

Financial Report: Arlene Allison Reviewed this month's financial report. Council approved.

Mission Coordinator: Rosie Freeman Reviewed the past projects for the year. 8 food baskets were completed and delivered for Christmas.

Old Business: New cross has been installed. The guys did a great job.

New Business: Reviewed Pastors and Eileen's year end reports. Reviewed Constitution changes. Reviewed Budget. Approved by Council .

Communications: Pastor encouraged council to reach out to Carol Wostel, give a call, send a note.

Next meeting February 6,2020 at 1:30 pm Meeting was closed with Lord's Prayer. Respectfully submitted Sharon Peterson

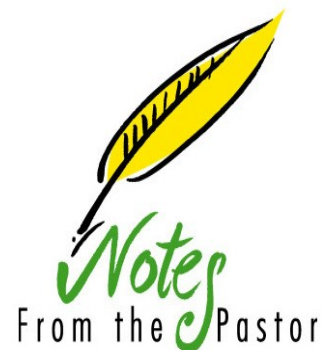
Let's Get Together!



there I Am in the midst

One of the "new things" I have been talking about with the church council is the need for Living Word to become even more of a **church family**. Already, people that visit say they want to come back because of the warmth they feel in our church. Now we need to build on that and just spend more time being together not only to serve and learn, but, just as much, to have fun together! **That's what families do!**

As an example, we will be inviting the men of the church to get together Tuesday evening March 3 at 5:45 pm at IHOP for "dinner and a movie" . We'll be going to see "Call of the Wild" at 7 pm. The ladies of the church, W.O.W. are way ahead of us on this "being together" thing! Watch for opportunities for more study/service/fun things to come!



March Celebrations



- March 3
Kate Masterson
- March 30
MaryAnn Mallory



No March Anniversaries

March, 2020

Sun

Mon




Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1 <i>Celebration Sunday</i>	2	3 10 AM YOGA 5:45 IHOP- Men's Dinner and Movie Event	4 8AM Men's Bible Study and Fellow- ship Noon and 6PM Midweek Lenten Devotions 4 PM Council meeting	5	6	7 10 AM Support Group
8	9	10 10 AM YOGA	11 8AM Men's Bible Study and Fellowship Noon and 6PM Midweek Lenten Devotions	12	13	14 10 AM Support Group
15 <i>St. Patrick's Day Luncheon following worship</i> 	10	11 10 AM YOGA	12 8 AM Men's Bible Study and Fellowship Noon and 6PM Midweek Lenten Devotions	13	14	15 10 AM Sup- port Group
16	17	18 10 AM YOGA	19 8AM Men's Bible Study and Fellowship Noon and 6PM Midweek Lenten Devotions	20	21	22 10 AM Support Group
23 30   Potluck	24	25 10 AM YOGA	26 8 AM Men's Bible Study and Fellowship Noon and 6 PM Midweek Lenten Devotions	27	28	29 10 AM Support Group

Living Word Lutheran Church



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We're on the web!

www.livingwordkingman.com

Vision Statement

Our vision is to be a welcoming, scripturally based community intentionally serving Christ through missions.

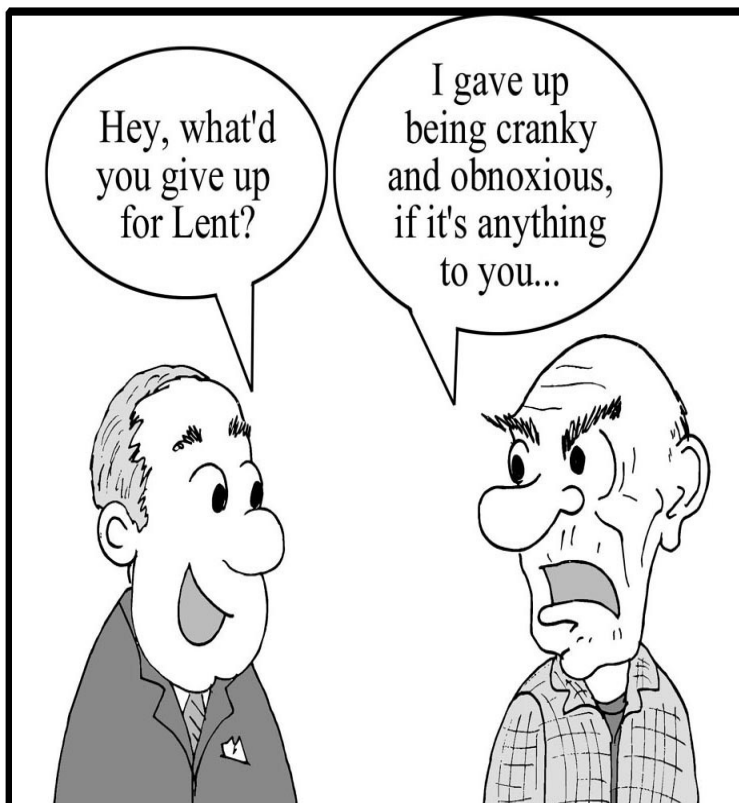
Mission Statement

Living and growing in faith together as a spirit filled church with the

Word of God as our foundation and reaching out through missions showing the

Love of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, to

Create a hunger in others to embrace the Word of God, salvation through Jesus Christ and guidance of the Holy Spirit.



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