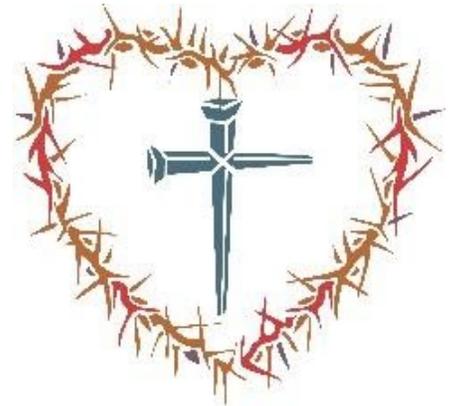


THE FEBRUARY BELL 2021

Bethany Lutheran Church of Wisconsin Dells, WI
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A NEW KIND OF LENT



Does anyone else feel as if life is moving too quickly? Even when we are stuck at home...still it seems life zips by us. This has been a question I have heard over and over again in the midst of this pandemic mindset we are all in. It can seem an odd question given the physical restrictions we have, and yet we stress over how quickly we can or can't accomplish stuff. Our thoughts on the state of society and politics, along with struggles to define equality, can overwhelm; and we believe life is moving at a frenetic pace.

Along comes Lent, and this year my thought process is focused on ***“what Jesus does for us, rather than reflecting too much on what we should accomplish!”***

This gets us back to a vital reminder that God's Love and Grace are truly about what God is doing for us! There is, after all, nothing we need to do prior to celebrating God's Love and Grace in Jesus. Jesus does it for us!

Take time this year during Lent to pause and be reminded of this. Here are a few ways to give yourself pause....

Deep Breaths...It sounds simple. It is simple, yet too often we fail take a moment and do it. This Lent, remember to breathe deeply. Try thinking of it this way: breathing in peace, exhaling worry.

Pay Attention...Commit to what's important to you! So often what is important to us gets the least amount of time and energy. Name what is important to you, and give it a proper place in your life.

Connect...Be intentional about connecting with others. It has been harder this past year than ever to stay connected. Take a few minutes each day make a call, send a letter or a text to stay connected!

Cook...Try a new recipe and savor the act of creating something. Jesus spent lots and lots of time eating with people. As you cook or bake, remember that in making and breaking bread, Jesus is present!



Then finally, and most importantly, it is about **what Jesus does for us, rather than reflecting too much on what we should accomplish!** Give yourself grace, Lent is not about achieving or doing something, but about resting in God who gives us peace!

Be renewed; be refreshed in your time with God.

Blessings,
Pastor Craig
revcw2016@gmail.com



Ash
WEDNESDAY

Ash Wednesday is February 17th

Worship at 7 pm

(Note: This is our only Wednesday night Lenten service this year)

IN HONOR,
CELEBRATION,
and MEMORY



February 21 - The flowers are given to the glory of God by Gary and Jayne Gilbertson in memory of Brian Gilbertson's birthday.

There are many open dates on the flower and candle calendars!

The cost for two altar bouquets is \$8.50.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES

4:00 to 5:00 pm on the Following Wednesdays

February 10	Ten Commandments
February 17	Lord's Prayer
February 24	Apostles' Creed

ANNUAL MEETING RESULTS

**Approval of Ministry Plan for 2021
Election of Council Member Susan Jones**



Thank you to outgoing Council President Mike Hunkins!

New Council
Lori Chipman, President
Susan Hall
David Ziarnik
Sarah Carroll
Susan Jones



SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY • FEBRUARY 7

We are challenging hunger on Super Bowl Sunday!

Here is how you can help. Bring canned goods or other non-perishable foods for the local food pantry, and fill the big Souper Bowl pot with \$\$ for the ELCA World Hunger Appeal.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14

9:00 AM

Gail Webb and Cindy Randall

Piano Duets in Worship



Bethany Lutheran Church

OUR MINISTRY PURPOSE

“Following Christ’s command to love God and our neighbor – we seek to share our faith in worship, discipleship, service and outreach.”