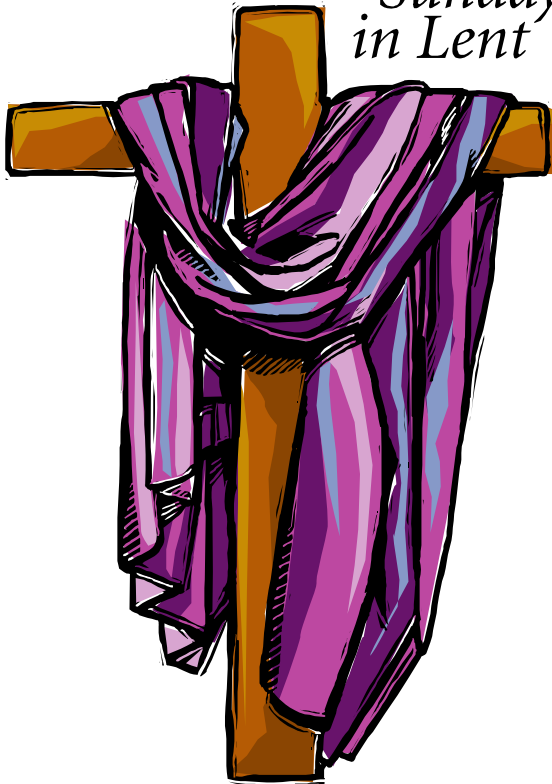


Refrigerator News

March 19, 2017

THIRD Sunday in Lent



Why Purple?

In the season of Lent, many churches have purple paraments on the altar, lectern and pulpit. Why purple? In ancient times, purple garments were expensive and hard to find. The dye came from rare sea mollusks that had to be crushed to garner their purple fluid. Generally, only wealthy people and members of royalty could afford purple garments. For example, in the story of the rich man and Lazarus, the rich man “was dressed in purple and fine linen” (Luke 16:19, NRSV) Purple is used in church sanctuaries during Advent and Lent because Christ is revered as the King of Kings.

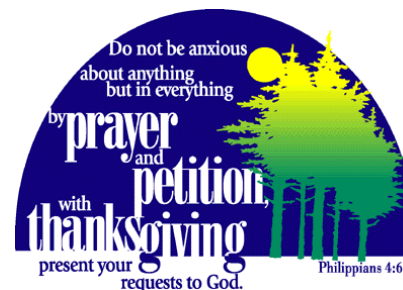


The **Spring 2017 Women's Retreat** is being held at Agape Church of the Brethren at 11610 Lima Road on **April 22** from 9:00 – 3:00. Holly Parks, worship leader, speaker and retreat leader from Ft. Wayne brings the message of “What’s Your Story? You can make an eternal difference.”

The retreat begins at 9:00 a.m. with a light breakfast followed by three presentations with time for sharing in small groups. Lunch is served at noon. A worship service will close the retreat. **Please turn in your registrations to Judy Steckly or Sharon McKay by April 2. Checks should be written to Agape Women's Fellowship. The cost is \$13.00 per registration. Carpooling will be available.**

Sister Cheryl Thomas is our guest pastor this morning.

Her sermon is “Because We Are Brethren” and is on global missions with a referenced scripture of Matthew 25: 34-40. Sister Cheryl is our global missions advocate for the Northern Indiana District. She and her husband Paul have careers in education, earning their doctorates in educational leadership in 2007. As you may recall from a previous Sunday visit to the Lincolnshire congregation, they spoke of living in remote Alaskan villages and assisting public schools there to meet national standards. Presently they are living in Angola, IN and are awaiting a church to serve as co-pastors. They both recently completed their TRIM obligations and ordination into ministry is the final step. Their three adult children and three grandchildren are a source of joy in their lives.



Our prayers for the Lincolnshire church family include **Paula Sosenheimer** who fell and displaced both hips on Tuesday. Both hips were amazingly re-placed and she is recovering nicely.

Gene Valentine has returned to Timbercrest Healthcare where he will stay until strength is gained affording his return to his apartment.

Cheryl Leverton continues doing well and is continuing her therapy at home. Prayers of encouragement for the Pastoral Search and Interim Search Committees as they work to find an interim and/or full time pastor.

This week at Lincolnshire

Monday, March 20

“First Day of Spring”

9:15 a.m. Women’s Bible Study

Tuesday, March 21

7:00 Stewardship

Wednesday, March 22

7:00 p.m. Choir Practice

Thursday, March 23

7:00 Leadership Team

VACATION TIME!

Marv and Sara Loutsenhizer will be on vacation from March 23 through March 30. During that time, **Ruth Strole and Jan Ward** will be prayer request contacts. **Stan Gorom** will send out email prayer chain requests and/or hotline information. The office will be covered on Mondays and Wednesdays by **Jan Ward**. Bulletins for the two Sundays will be available as usual but there will be no Refrigerator News for Sunday, April 2. My cell phone, 615-4052 will be on if you have questions, etc. Thanks to Ruth, Jan and Stan for covering for me.

Food for Thought

Christians need the sensitivity of a stethoscope, the stability of a gyroscope, and the vision of a telescope. ~ Unknown

Praying without faith is like shooting without a bullet; it makes noise but does no execution. ~ Francis Burkitt

A Christian is the keyhole through which other folks see God. ~ Robert Gibson

The only things some people give up for Lent are their New Year’s Resolutions. ~ Unknown

No winter lasts forever; no spring skips its turn. ~ Hal Borland

Do not abandon yourselves to despair. We are the Easter people and hallelujah is our song. ~ Pope John Paul II

The average pencil is seven inches long, with just a half-inch eraser.

Remember that, in case you thought optimism was dead. ~ Robert Brault

The only trouble with Easter coming soon is that we have to walk through a graveyard to get there. ~Barbara Brown Taylor

During last Sunday’s worship service, the Manchester ROBOT troupe asked us to write down the places or times that we saw or felt God.

Here is where you have found God.

Communicating with my birth mother. At the rising of the sun.

Driving home from or to work. In the sound of the wind.

In the innocence of children. In times of trouble.

On our sailboat. In church and Bible study

At the dinner table. Before going to bed at night.

When I pray. When I experience nature.

At Camp Mack.

In the mountains.

Communion.

On a clear, star-filled night.

When great expectations work out! The smile of a friend.

Unexpected gifts during times of hardship. In every place and every day.

Holding a grandchild. Seeing the Grand Canyon.

Sitting by the lake or the ocean. Reading at late night.

Pondering His graciousness and his gifts to me.

In the early morning, the beginnings of a new day.

In the fullness of the moon or a beautiful sunrise.

Friends who walk the journey with me.

The fun and joy of children.

The silence and listening of the congregation.

The sun streaming in the west windows of the sanctuary.

Experiencing young people this morning giving the service.

Finding new meaning from scriptures.

