

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER – WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2021

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7

Scripture: Mark 1:29-39

Sermon: “The Meaning of it All”

Dr. Tim Kovalcik

Communion Sunday

Join us in person or live via our Facebook page at 10:00am

FAITH STUDY

You now have two opportunities to join the Faith Study with Pastor Hans. The first opportunity is every Sunday morning at 9:00. You may join by Zoom or you may join Pastor Hans in the Parlor. The Zoom link is in the weekly emailed newsletter.

Your second opportunity is on Wednesday afternoon at 3:30pm. You may join Pastor Hans in the Parlor each Wednesday.

LOGOS AND YOUTH GROUP

We are very excited to announce that our LOGOS program resumes each Wednesday from 4:30 to 6:00pm. All children in Kindergarten through 5th grade are invited to join us. Everyone must wear a mask and all activities have been adapted to allow us to be together but properly distanced from each other.

Our Jr. High and Sr. High Youth meet each Sunday evening from 6:30 to 8:00pm. We will not meet the next two Sundays but will be back together on February 21.

And Jr. and Sr. High parents – be on the lookout for a separate email with information about a fun faith based online RPG (that’s Role Playing Game if you’re like me and didn’t know what that stood for!) that Pastor Hans is developing.

ASH WEDNESDAY

Mark you calendar for Wednesday, February 17. This date is Ash Wednesday. In place of our traditional service and supper we will be offering “Drive-Thru Ashes”. Pastor Hans will be under the blue awning (east parking lot) from 5:00 to 7:00pm to greet each carload, say a prayer and place ashes on your forehead or back of hand. Watch the newsletter for more information.

MU FOOD PANTRY

The Mission Committee voted to resume collecting food items for the Millikin Food Pantry. A list of items will be printed at the end of this newsletter. We are working on setting up online ordering so you could purchase items and have them shipped to the Church. We’ll keep you posted on when this is available. Otherwise, all food items can be brought to the Church on Sunday mornings and placed in the basket in the Narthex.

WEEKLY MESSAGE FROM PASTOR HANS

Dear Friends, dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

An incredibly busy December and January have come to an end, and Mardi Gras, Ash Wednesday, and Lent are approaching. After all the ribaldry, a time of reflection is ahead of us, a time to center our faith, take stock of the state of our souls, and review our relationship with the Living God.

I look forward to this as the craziness of the Christmas season, in spite or because of COVID seems to get worse and worse. In my particular case, this becomes visible in a tendency to forget things or confuse them. On Monday I got one of those usually obnoxious automated reminder calls, but in this case it actually worked, as I realized that I had put a doctor's appointment on the wrong day, Wednesday, not Tuesday. I call this my numerical dyslexia. Sometimes I get numbers just wrong, and a couple of times I got rewarded by surprising honesty of people when they tell me I gave them too much money. There is a reason why I did not make a career as a banker.

But it really gets bad with my memory; the other day I went shopping for a quart of milk, and at the store I remembered all the knick knacks that I usually keep forgetting. I was really proud of myself for remembering till I come home, and my wife asks me "Where is the milk?" Oops.

I figured out a long time ago that the old adage "Forgive and forget" does not work. I can forgive, Jesus teaches us about doing that, and a whole lot more than we like to do it. But the ugly truth is, if somebody does me a bad turn, it will stay with me, and if I say a thousand times "I forgive you" it still will gnaw at me. I have come up with this solution: I need to put those slights on my shopping list. Then I will forget them.

And as we get older and all the little misadventure of life pile up, God grants us the wonderful mercy of becoming ever more forgetful. In a way, I look forward to the day when the Lord is done with me and I know nobody and nothing anymore. Then a new exciting part of the journey will begin, where I will be everyday in a new place, and meet all the time brand new people. I can't wait.

In the meantime, dear Friends, hang in there, keep the faith, and trust in Jesus. There will be a happy end, joyful and glorious beyond our wildest imagination.

Go with God
Pastor Hans

ON THE CALENDAR

2/3 LOGOS 4:30 – 6:00
2/8 Christian Education Committee 7:00pm
2/10 LOGOS 4:30pm
2/11 Worship Music 5:30pm

BIG BLUE FOOD PANTRY LIST

- Breakfast: Life Cereal, Frosted Flakes, Cheerios, Pop Tarts, Oatmeal
- Snacks: Peanut Butter/Cheese crackers, Jello cups, Pudding cups, Protein bars, Fritos, Cheez-its, Rice Krispie Treats, Wheat thins, Popcorn, Ritz Crackers, Chex Mix, Fruit snacks
- Lunch/Dinner: Tuna, Ravioli, Chicken noodle soup, Tomato Soup, Pasta/pasta sauce, Vegetable Soup, Chili w/beans, Chili w/o beans, Peanut Butter, Jelly – grape, strawberry, Hamburger helper, Can spaghetti, Pork & Beans, Baked beans, Beef Stew, Ramen-chicken, beef
- Canned fruit: peaches, mixed fruit, fruit cocktail, applesauce
- Canned vegetables: Corn, Green Beans
- Condiments: Mayo, Ketchup, Mustard, Ranch Dressing, French Dressing
- Beverages: Hot chocolate, Keurig coffee, Lemonade