| The Carillon  |
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**Lent 2024**

**You, Me, the Judges and Jesus**

**Ancient Lessons for Modern Faith**

 In Sunday school you learned about Moses. He was the one who brought the Israelites out of slavery in Egypt. He led them through the Sinai desert for 40 years. He received the 10 commandments and other laws from God. The first five books of the Bible are known as the “Books of Moses”. He was the one that brought the Israelites to the “Promised Land.” As best they can determine at present, he lived in around the year 1300 BCE.

 You may have also learned in Sunday school about Israel’s first three kings: Saul, David and Solomon. Saul was the first king. He was known for pulling the kingdom together. David was Israel’s most faithful king. He was known for writing and compiling the prayers and songs of the Bible, the Psalms. Solomon was the wisest king. By tradition, he was the author of Proverbs. He ruled Israel through its golden age when it was a strong regional power. These three Kings lived around the year 1000 BCE.

 So, there is a 300-year period between the Israelites coming to the promised land and choosing a king to rule their nation. The question is what happened in between? This 300-year period is known as the period of the “Judges.” The word “judge” is a little off here. It is the best they can do in translating a Hebrew word for which there is no exact translation. Perhaps it would be better to translate this word as “leader.” The judges did make rulings over legal issues, but they were also people of deep religious convictions, charismatic people of prayer and great military leaders. Under difficult situations they called the people to repentance, taught faithfulness and righteous and, with the help of God, brought peace.

 Even though they lived over 3000 years ago, they still have valuable lessons for us as we seek to live faithful lives today. Also, there is a clear connection between what the Judges were seeking to bring to the Israelites of their day and what we receive from God through our Savior, Jesus Christ.

 The connections between you and me as faithful modern Christians, the Judges of the ancient days and Jesus’ call to discipleship is the focus of our Lenten Worship this year. On the Sundays of Lent we will sing our Lenten favorite hymns and hear the lessons of the Judges. On Wednesdays we will join in evening prayer and song to consider the connection between Judges and Jesus and how the Holy Spirit acts in us to draw us to our Lord. Our confirmation class will lead us in our Wednesday worship and the music will have a modern, contemplative focus. And, of course, there will be food!! Lenten Suppers will start at 5:30pm and worship will begin at 7:00pm.

 At our Wednesday Evening services the confirmation kids will pass a pail around for the collection of the offering. The pail has been decorated by our Sunday school kids. It represents water. Our synod is collecting a special offering to help people around the world find clean, safe drinking water. The churches of LaX Synod will all bring their pails to the synod gathering in June to be added to our synod gift to help bring good water to those in need. So loose offering and offerings in the Lenten envelopes marked “special” will be used for this purpose. Offerings in our regular Lenten envelopes and all loose offering on Sundays will go to our general fund.

 Join us for this special time of worship as we sing our classic Lenten hymns, turn to God in evening prayer and hear about the connections between you, me, the Judges and Jesus.

![MCj03226430000[1]]()DECEMBER CHURCH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

**\*Treasurer’s Report:** The report was reviewed by Council. Report accepted.

**Finance Committee:** Phil Moilien will present the 2024 Budget to Council Jan. 11.

\***Transition Task Force** working to complete Ministry Site Profile for Council to approve and finalize.

**\*High School Youth** Costs are being finalized for National Youth Gathering

**\*WELCA:** Cookie Walk was a success. Pancake Breakfast is March 3rd.

**\*Personnel:** Motion passed to increase wages for Office Admin., Treasurer and Custodiam based on Cost-of-Living Adjustment of 3.2% for 2024 set by the Social Security Administration. Mike Lusk abstained from voting.

**\*Property & Grounds:** Flood lights will be replaced by Matt Stellner

**\*Stewardship:** Good feedback has been received from the appeal letter sent out.

**\*Worship:** Discussion about singing during communion. Four people interested in assisting with livestreaming, 3 have been trained. Additional members of the Worship Committee are needed.

**\*Discussion & Action Items: Sugar Creek:** A motion was approved to send $2000 to Sugar Creek from the Youth Fund.

**One Service:** A motion was approved to move to one service at 9am with Sunday School, Confirmation and Coffee at 10am. **Luminaries:** Motion approved to allow the Confirmation Youth to vote on an approved mission option for donating luminary funds. **Giving Tree Additional Funds:** Motion approved to house additional Giving Tree donations in the Shepherd Fund and managed by the Social Ministry Committee.

**\*The next meeting** will be January 11th at 6:00pm.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20pm followed by the Lord’s Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted, Amanda Buros

**Wednesdays in Lent: Please join us!**

**February 14:** 7:00 p.m., Ash Wednesday

Worship with Imposition of Ashes

No supper served.

**February 21:** 5:30-7:00 p.m. Supper served in Fellowship Hall by the Men’s Club

7:00 p.m. Worship

**February 28:** 5:30-7:00 p.m. Supper served in Fellowship Hall? TBA

7:00 p.m. Worship

**March 6:** 5:30-7:00 p.m. Supper served in Fellowship Hall by the Maxwell & Tomten Families

7:00 p.m. Worship

**March 13:** 4:00-6:30 p.m. Supper served in Fellowship Hall-Men’s Club Fish Fry

7:00 p.m. Worship

**March 20:** 5:30-7:00 p.m. Supper served in Fellowship Hall by Naomi Circle

7:00 p.m. Worship

THANK YOU, COUNCIL MEMBERS!

Thank you to our Council for their faithful leadership and service to our congregation. We give thanks for the ministry of Glen Hoff, who faithfully served as our Council President for two years; Amanda Buros and Deb Holen whose terms have ended and for Steve Pauloski, Paul Bahr, Janice Bender, Mark Hutson, Mike Lusk and Ron Moilien who will continue to serve on Council. We elected Ray Williamson, Laura Hofslien and Amy Stakston-Wiedemann at our Annual meeting. Please thank our outgoing and newly elected council members!

CONFIRMATION NEWS

Lent is just around the corner!!

This year, Our Confirmation students are hosting the Wednesday Lenten Evening Worship Services.

This means we are responsible to welcome people, hand out bulletins, acolyte (lighting the candles), read the Scriptures, collect the offering, lead prayers and clean up after worship. Everyone will have a job each week. Please plan now to be present.

**On Sunday, Feb 11**, we will have our last class meeting on Sunday. During the 10 am class we will review and practice the different things we will do during the Wednesday services. Please do worship notes for the 9 am worship on this day.

Then…

**Lenten Wednesday services begin on Wednesday Feb 21.**

**Supper is at 5:30pm,**

**Confirmation kids meet in the youth room at 6:30pm to receive assignments and practice.**

**Worship starts at 7pm.**

**Clean up around 7:40pm.**

**Home by 8:00pm**

Thanks to all who purchased Luminaries for our Ash Wednesday Worship Service

As the church family of CVLC, let us join together in prayer to remember our loved ones who live eternally in the light of Jesus Christ.

As the donations for the luminaires go to support Vernon County kids whose parents died of COVID, let us also lift these families into the loving embrace of Jesus for strength and peace.

Holy God, We give you thanks for those whose names light our sanctuary On Ash Wednesday, we thank you for the gift of knowing them and sharing life with them. May their faith continually be a light for us as we seek to serve your Son. Loving God, you bring comfort to all who mourn. On this Ash Wednesday, move within the families who had a parent die of COVID, that those who remain will not grieve with hope but will rest in the assurance of eternal life with Jesus and be strengthened by your Spirit. Amen.

FIRST COMMUNION CLASS

Attention 4th and 5th Graders and their families.

You are invited to First Communion Class

The class will meet during the Sunday School hour March 3,10 & 17th.

Parents and Caring adults please attend with your 4th and 5th grader.

Any kids older than 4th or 5th grade who have not had first communion class are welcome to attend.



 “SOUPER BOWL” OF CARING ON FEBRUARY 11.

CVLC will again participate in the Souper Bowl of Caring. On SUPER BOWL SUNDAY a soup kettle will be placed in the narthex to receive donations. 100% of the money given will go directly to the ELCA WORLD HUNGER APPEAL. We invite you to put a donation in the kettle on this Sunday. Cash and checks will be accepted (make checks payable to CVLC and write “world hunger” in the memo line) we will send all money to the Synod and they will forward it to the ELCA WORLD HUNGER APPEAL. During these football festivities **remember** **to give!**

A LENTEN GIFT ENVELOPE will be provided in the Newsletter. We invite you to give a special Lenten Offering which will go to the La Crosse Area Synod Water is Life Project. You may place your envelope in the offering plate or pail or mail to the church. If you receive your newsletter via email, you may simply bring or mail a check to the church. Please make out your check to CVLC with Water is Life in the memo line. To learn more about Water is Life, A Synod project please visit:

<https://lacrosseareasynod.org/elca-world-hunger>

MEN’S CLUB FISH FRY FUNDRAISER

On Wednesday March 13th from 4:00-6:30pm the Men’s Club will be holding a fish fry! The menu includes: 2 pieces of cod, baked potato and cole slaw. Tickets will be presale only, they will not accept walk ins. To purchase a ticket, contact Mike Lusk or the office. The cost of a ticket is $12.00. All proceeds will support Coon Valley Lutheran Church!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS TO THE AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE IN JANUARY! 52 units were donated! Thank you to Mike Lusk who organizes our Blood Drives. Thanks to all who help with the Drives and to all who donate. You truly make a difference in people’s lives!

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

The Earth and everything in it, the world and its inhabitants, belong to the Lord. -Psalm 24:1

**NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING**

**July 16 – July 20, 2024**

**New Orleans**

***I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.***

***(Psalm 139:14)***

**Our ELCA National Youth Gathering is this summer!!** Coon Valley Lutheran has paired up with Middle Coon Valley and will be traveling and housing together along with other ELCA congregations in our area. Bella Grethel from Coon Valley will be attending along with Anya Sandvick, Nadya Sandvick, Avah Connaughty, Molly Mathison and Gretchen Gettelman. Our chaperones are Pastor Meg Hoversten and Twyla Sandvick, both from Middle Coon Valley.  We will travel on a chartered bus, leaving July 15th and returning on July 21st.  It will be a memorable, faith-affirming adventure. For more information visit the gathering website at: <https://www.elca.org/YoungAdultGathering>.

**Rummage Sale – Fundraiser – April 13th 7am – 1pm at the Coon Valley Village Hall**

Please help support our young people and chaperones attending the Youth Gathering by going to Middle Coon Valley’s annual **FREE WILL DONATION** Rummage Sale.

The rummage sale is on April 13th from 7am until 1pm at the Coon Valley Village Hall. You will find a good selection of gently used clothing all sizes (men, women and children), household decorations, kitchen items, books and little surprise gems of all sorts. Don’t miss this sale. Payment is free will donation. All money raised will help send youth and adult chaperones from Middle Coon Valley and Coon Valley Lutheran church to the National Youth Gathering in New Orleans this summer. Item donations are also welcome and accepted on Friday, April 12th from noon until 5pm at the Village Hall. No electronics, large furniture, appliances, shoes or bicycles. Contact Lynn Joholski at 608-452-3340 with questions.

WELCA NEWS

 At our Thursday, January 18 meeting, 10 members sat around a table and enjoyed coffee served by Margaret Lee. Our business meeting opened with our Purpose Statement followed by reports. Ellie thanked the General Board for the delicious brunch in December and noted that this year all members will be involved as we return to a potluck for our Christmas meeting.

 February is Birthday Month and the General Board will serve and present the program. You won’t want to miss “Birthday Trivia.”

 Our Pancake Breakfast is planned for Sunday, March 3, and our Vice President, Deb Holen, put up flyers so please mark your calendars. The Serving Committee always makes us proud!

 To open our program, the new year seemed like a good time to stress the importance of kindness and Ellie read reasons for us to be kind. It not only makes the people we’re kind to be happy but it also does wonders for us too!!! We then proceeded with installing our officers and many thanks go out to them for their faithful service. We are so thankful for our newest officers: Deb Holen, Vice President; Eunice Quast, Mission Action; and Pam Olson, Sunshine Chairperson and for our officers with many years of service behind them: Ellie Brye, President; Judy Koula, Secretary; Jean Gronvold, Treasurer, LuEtta Nelson, Cradle Roll and Ainsley Lichtie, Historian. God Bless you all. We closed with singing, “We All Are One in Mission” and the Lord’s Prayer.



DATES TO REMEMBER

Thurs., Feb. 15, 10 am, WELCA – Birthday Month. General Board presents program. Servers: General Board. Paying Hostesses: Renee Ames, Kristi Olson, Denise Bakkum, Janelle Berg, Kelly Strangstalien.

Wed., Feb. 21, 5:30pm, Lenten Supper – Men’s Club.

Wed., Feb. 28, 5:30pm, Lenten Supper – TBA

LOOKING AHEAD

Sun., Mar. 3, 8am-Noon – Pancake Breakfast

Wed., Mar. 6, 5:30pm, Lenten Supper – Maxwell’s & Tomten’s

Wed., Mar. 13, 4-6:30pm – Men’s Fish Fry

Wed., Mar. 20, 5:30pm, Lenten Supper – Naomi Circle

Thurs., Mar. 21, 10am, WELCA – Ruth Circle presents program. Server: Jan Verse. Paying Hostesses: Amy Bjerkos, Judy Brose, Rhonda Brye, Amanda Buros, Kari Buros.

SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE SERVERS

Feb. 11 Rachel Strangstalien, Betty Jorgenson

Feb. 18 Jan Verse, Margaret Lee

Feb. 25 Sunday School

Mar. 3 Pancake Breakfast

Mar. 10 Melinda Marsh, Nicole Peters

Mar. 17 Ruth Driscoll, Karen Rude

Mar. 24 Linda Servais, Rita Erlandson

Mar. 31 Easter – No Coffee

God Bless, Ellie Brye, President

***Remember to pick up your WELCA yearbook in the dining room or the back of the church.***

**ATTENDANCE & OFFERING**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **2023** | **December** |  | **2023 YTD** |
| **Total Offerings** | $25,495.96 |   | $184,388.78 |
| **Expenses** | $16,465.31 |   | $207,275.02 |
| **Balance/Shortfall** | **$9,030.65** |  | **-$22,886.2** |
| **Parsonage Int. Fund Transfer** | $0  |  | $1,750.00 |
| **Building Fund Transfer** | $0 |  | $1,000 |
| **Memorial Fund****Transfer** | $0 |  | $0 |

**12/24 – 4p:** 174; **Offering:** $6,962.30

**12/25 – 9a:** 32; **Offering:** $1,430.00

**12/31 – 9a:** 44; **Offering:** $2,313.62

**1/7 – 9a:** 125; **Offering:** $2,921.89

**1/14 – 9a:** 76; **Offering:** $3,930.00

**1/21 – 9a:** 92; **Offering:** $2,878.96

**1/28 – 9a:** 66; **Offering:** $2,178.38

**\*\***Approximately **$4,438.00 a week** is needed to meet operating expenses.

**General Fund Balance:** 12/31/23: $28,162.47

**Memorial Fund Balance:**12/31/23: $54,385.31

**Building Fund Balance:** 12/31/23: $38,857.53

**CD Interest Balance:** 12/31/23: $18,381.39

**Shepherd Fund Balance:** 12/31/23: $1,415.19

Sunday School Attendance

**1/7**-20, **1/14**-16, **1/21**-16, **1/28**-6

FUNERALS

12/30- Phyllis Galstad

1/4- Melanie Role

1/13- Monte Nelson

MEMORIALS

**Judy Denison**

Memorial Fund: $125.00

**Phyllis Galstad**

Memorial Fund: $70.00

 Endowment Fund: $40.00

 General Fund: $20.00

 Cemetery: $20.00

**Melanie Role**

General Fund: $110.00

 Endowment: $60.00

 Memorial Fund: $980.00

 Shepherd Fund: $15.00

 Building Fund: $20.00

 Parking Lot: $40.00

 WELCA Kitchen Fund: $15.00

**Monte Nelson**

Memorial Fund: $100.00

 Cemetery: $25.00

**Sylvester King, Jr.**

Parking Lot: $25.00

**YEAR-TO-DATE BALANCE**

PRAYER GROUP

The Prayer Group continues to pray for the church, the congregation and our extended family and friends.

**† *Our church staff***

**† *Our members*:** Corrine Appleman, Beverly Bagstad, Clifford Bakkum, Brian Berg, Herby Cornell, Jeanne Ebli, Kira Foster, Jeri Harbaugh, Bonnie Holey, Becky Ihle, Donna Ihle, Verlin Ihle, Todd King, Margaret Lee, Russell Lee, Aaron Leisso, Larry Lichtie, Aaron Marx, Bud Miyamoto, Marianne Mhyre, LuEtta Nelson, Romaine Nelson, Sandy Nelson, Cathy Ofte, Eunice Quast, Jojo Satona, Mary Schultz, Billie Slater, LaVonne Stendahl, Joyce Temp, Teri Tomten.

**† *Our members who are currently in health care facilities & Assisted Living*:** Tip Bagstad, Inez Beck, Rachel Berg, Evelyn Dahlen, Joanne Fletcher, Erma Graupe, Lenore Henley, Carl Holte, Bob Moilien, Irene Nestingen, Annie Olson, Beatrice Olson (Alden), Jim Knutson, Betty Sanders.

**† *Those who grieve:*** Family and friends of Phyllis Galstad, Melanie Role, Monte Nelson & Richard Brose

**† *Family and friends of members***

**† *Local Military***

**† *All those affected by the COVID-19 virus***

**DAILY BIBLE READINGS**

**WEEK OF FEBRUARY 4**

 **SUNDAY** Isaiah 40:21-31 *The Creator cares for the powerless*

Psalm 147:1-11, 20c *The LORD heals the brokenhearted*

1 Corinthians 9:16-23 *A servant of the gospel*

Mark 1:29-39 *The healing of Peter’s mother-in-law*

 **MONDAY** 2 Kings 4:8-17, 32-37 *Elijah raises the Shunamite child*

 **TUESDAY** 2 Kings 8:1-6 *The Shunamite window’s land restored*

**WEDNESDAY** Mark 3:7-12 *Jesus heals many people*

 **THURSDAY** Job 6:1-13 *Job’s lament at misfortune*

**FRIDAY** 1 Corinthians 9:1-16 *An apostle’s life*

**SATURDAY**Psalm 102:12-28 *Prayer for healing*

**WEEK OF FEBRUARY 11**

 **SUNDAY** 2 Kings 2:1-12 *Elijah taken up to heaven*

Psalm 50:1-6 *God shines forth in glory*

2 Corinthians 4:3-6 *God’s light seen in Christ*

Mark 9:2-9 *Christ revealed as God’s beloved Son*

 **MONDAY** Exodus 19:7-25 *Moses meets God on the mountain*

 **TUESDAY** Job 19:23-27 *Job will see God*

**ASH WEDNESDAY**

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 *Return to God*

 *Or* Isaiah 58:1-12 *The fast that God chooses*

Psalm 51:1-17 *A plea for mercy*

2 Corinthians 5:20b—6:10 *Now is the day of salvation*

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21 *The practice of faith*

 **THURSDAY** Daniel 9:1-14 *Daniel prays for the people’s forgiveness*

 **FRIDAY** Daniel 9:15-25a *An angel speaks to Daniel*

 **SATURDAY** Psalm 32 *God forgives our sin*

**WEEK OF FEBRUARY 18**

 **SUNDAY** Genesis 9:8-17 *The rainbow, sign of God’s covenant*

Psalm 25:1-10 *Your paths are love and faithfulness*

1 Peter 3:18-22 *Saved through water*

Mark 1:9-15 *The temptation of Jesus*

 **MONDAY** Job 4:1-21 *Eliphaz speaks of sin*

 **TUESDAY** Job 5:8-27 *We are to seek God*

 **WEDNESDAY** Matthew 4:1-11 *Matthew’s account of Jesus’ temptation*

 **THURSDAY** Proverbs 30:1-9 *Plea to be safe from temptation*

 **FRIDAY** 1 Peter 3:8-18a *About suffering*

 **SATURDAY** Psalm 77 *Prayer for God to remember us*

**WEEK OF FEBRUARY 25**

 **SUNDAY** Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16 *God blesses Abraham and Sarah*

Psalm 22:23-31 *All the earth shall turn to God*

Romans 4:13-25 *The promise to those of Abraham’s faith*

Mark 8:31-38 *The passion prediction*

 **MONDAY** Genesis 21:1-7 *God gives Abraham and Sarah a son*

 **TUESDAY** Genesis 22:1-19 *God asks Abraham to sacrifice Isaac*

 **WEDNESDAY** Mark 10:32-34 *Jesus foretells his death*

 **THURSDAY** Jeremiah 30:12-22 *God will restore Israel*

 **FRIDAY** Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-19 *By faith Abraham obeyed*

 **SATURDAY** Psalm 105:1-11, 37-45 *God promised life to Abraham*

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| February 2024  |
| **Sunday** | **Monday** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Thursday** | **Friday** | **Saturday** |
|   |  |  |  | **1****6:00p-**Rebecca Circle | **2** | **3** |
| **4****9:00a-**Worship with Holy Communion**10:00a-**Sunday School**,** Coffee Fellowship, Confirmation**Luminary deadline** | **5** **9:00a-**Naomi Circle | **6** **10:00a**-Ruth Circle | **7** | **8** **6:00p-**Church Council | **9** | **10**  |
| **11 9:00a-**Worship; Souper Bowl of Caring (wear your team jersey to worship!) **10:00a-**Sunday School, Coffee Fellowship, Confirmation | **12** | **13** | **14** **9:00a-**Quilting**7:00p-**Ash Wednesday Service | **15** **10:00a-**WELCA**12:30p-**Personnel Committee**Carillon Deadline** | **16** | **17** |
| **18 9:00a-**Worship with Holy Communion**10:00a-**Sunday School & Coffee Fellowship**10:00a-**Ministry Site Profile Meeting**2:00p-**Sugar Creek Annual Meeting | **19** | **20**  | **21****5:30-7:00p-**Lenten Supper-Men’s Club**7:00p-**Lenten Worship | **22****5:00p-**Worship Committee | **23** | **24**  |
| **25** **9:00a-**Worship**10:00a-**Sunday School & Coffee Fellowship | **26** |  **27** |  **28** **9:00a-**Quilting**5:30-7:00p-**Lenten Supper-TBA**7:00p-**Lenten Worship  | **29** | Shape, arrow  Description automatically generated |  **Office Hours** **Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday****9:00a-4:00p** |

**Moving? New contact information? Please update the church office.**

**Thank you!**

Please use our correct mailing address when sending us mail.

P.O. Box 280

Thank you!

Visit our website: coonvalleylutheranchurch.org to sign-up to receive our newsletter via email!

 **THE CARILLON**

 VOL. 53 February 2024 No. 2

 Coon Valley Lutheran Church, ELCA

 1005 Central Avenue, P.O. Box 280

 Coon Valley, WI 54623

 Office Phone (608)452-3772

 www.coonvalleylutheranchurch.org

 Interim Pastor: Jim Scaife, 608-452-3772

Office Administrator: Jamie Thomas, jamiel@mwt.net, Office: 608-452-3772

Cell Phone: 608-317-0007

Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9:00am-4:00pm

Treasurer: Becky Lusk, treasurer1005@mwt.net

Organist: Mary Schultz

Indoor Custodian: Tracy Stellner

Church Council President: Steve Pauloski

Vice President: Mike Lusk; Secretary: Laura Hofslien

Paul Bahr, Janice Bender, Mark Hutson, Ron Moilien,

Amy Stakston-Wiedemann, Ray Williamson

 **Worship Schedule**

 **9:00 a.m. (see the calendar for change in service times)**

 **Sunday School**

 **10:00 a.m.**