



The Voice

The Monthly Newsletter of Canton Lutheran Church

*And the sheep follow Jesus
because they know his voice.*

February, 2011



We Love because He first Loved Us
1 John 4:19

Worship @ Canton Lutheran Church

Saturday 5:00 pm ✕ Sundays 9:30 am ✕ Wed. 7:00 pm

TV Worship Times

Sundays at 1:00 pm & 7:00 pm ✕ Wednesdays at 5:00 pm
Midcontinent customers: ch. 19 ✕ Knology customers: ch. 98



Canton Lutheran Church
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phone **605.764.2429**

clc@cantonlutheran.net
www.cantonlutheran.net

Office Hours

Weekdays: 9:00-12:00 & 1:00-4:00*

*These times are approximations. If you need to see a specific individual, please call ahead for an appt.

CLC Staff

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Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

From the Pastor

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. "The Lord is my portion," says my soul, "therefore I will hope in him." The Lord is good to those who wait for him, to the soul that seeks him. It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord.

—Lamentations 3:22-26

January was a difficult month with bitterly cold temperatures, too many health concerns for people we know and love and the sudden deaths of two of our members (Ryan Olson and Lori Ripley) both under the age of 50. The staff and leadership at CLC had the exhaustive work of putting together annual congregational reports along with trying to come up with a budget for 2011 that would somehow allow us to continue to provide some semblance of the quality ministry we have all come to expect from our congregation. And, on a personal note another of my children headed off to college (Justin went to UND in Grand Forks, ND) leaving Rhonda and I with only one child at home and the reality of an empty nest looming all that much larger (and our bank account all that much smaller).

And yet, have you noticed that the days are getting just a bit longer -- the weather, just a bit warmer? As far away as spring is, it is still, unmistakably, on the way. Of course there will still be more storms, more freezing temperatures and times when the sun doesn't come out for days. But, still -- spring is coming. Day by day, bit by bit, light will overcome darkness, warmth will melt the snow and life will bloom out of a once frozen earth.

And so we huddle together around the cross and we hear the stories of God's people. In blessed community, we baptize, share God's meal, sing songs of faith and trust the promise of the resurrection that even in the midst of the winter storms, life wins. Be at peace. Christ is risen!

Highlights from the Annual Congregational Meeting

On January 30, 2011, Canton Lutheran Church met for her Annual Congregational Meeting. Gathered in faith and hope these were some of the decisions made:

- Began the process of re-writing our by-laws and updating our constitution to reflect our revised leadership structure and to bring our congregation into compliance with the ELCA model constitution.
- Approved a mission-minded budget that challenges the congregation to increase giving by 5% in 2011.
- Continued to grow in generosity by increasing our benevolence to the SD Synod and the ELCA to 5.5% of general fund giving with a goal of someday reaching 10%.
- Courageously decided to give a tithe of our parsonage sales (\$24,000) for the work of another ministry to be decided upon this year.
- Faithfully decided to set aside \$100,000 from the sale of the parsonages for the sake of future building repairs and upkeep.
- With anticipation set aside over \$67,000 for the use of future ministry projects that we will decide upon together.

Many commented on the positive nature of the meeting and we're excited about all that God is doing in our midst.



FROM YOUR CHURCH COUNCIL

David Amundson, President

One of my favorite hymns is the old hymn “Great is Thy Faithfulness”. This hymn has its roots in the passage of scripture from Lamentations 3:22 & 23 which says, “The Lord’s lovingkindnesses indeed never cease, for His compassions never fail. They are new every morning; Great is Thy faithfulness”. Yes, God is faithful, and we as a congregation move forward with a tremendous sense of expectation and anticipation for the wonderful opportunities, experiences, and encounters that lie ahead.

One of the things that your church leadership will be emphasizing in the coming year is communication with you, the congregation. Each month in the newsletter, you will be hearing from a member of the executive council or one of the ministry board members; you will also be hearing from us during the worship services. The ministry work of our church boards is the more structured part of our desire to live out our mission statement to “connect all generations to Christ and community”. But our mission statement and the ministry of our church family is a part of all of us, whether we serve on a church board or not. It is our hope that increased communication will not only help each of us to embrace the ministry that is Canton Lutheran, but promote conversation that will foster ideas and feedback as well—your church leaders welcome your thoughts and insights.

In closing let me say that I am grateful for the spirit of our conversation at our annual meeting; thoughts and ideas expressed, whether implemented at this meeting or not, will remain or become a part of our dialog as we move forward. As a congregation we passed proposals and a budget that not only present wonderful opportunities for ministry, but require the commitment of each of us as well. As we grow in our understanding that our ministry requires the faithfulness of each of us, we grow in our understanding of our dependence on one another—and we learn a bit more of what it means to be the church for and with one another.

Four of us from Canton Lutheran attended a church conference in Fargo this past weekend and at one point we were asked to write a statement that describes the spirit of our congregation. Here is an excerpt of our statement...”Standing on tip-toes, we are grateful for what God has done, excited about what God is doing and hopeful about God’s promised tomorrow. God fills our empty places with opportunities to reach out and proclaim the good news that God sent his Son for the sake of the world...” Tony 1/29/11

Thanks be to God. Great is Thy Faithfulness.

February Prayer Families

The week of Feb. 6 we pray for:

Tom Olson
Carol Olson
Sigvor Overby
Jared, Shannon, Brinley, and Audrina Pals
Doris Pedersen

The week of Feb. 13 we pray for:

Bev Pederson
Mike, Deb, and Austin Pederson
Bill and Diane Peltier
Kelly, Jill, Max, and Kit Peltier
John, Leah, Kiersten, Anders, Jacob, and Karryn Peterson

The week of Feb. 20 we pray for:

Don Pottratz
Jan, Lori, Theresa, Angela, and Erika Pudenz
Art and Opal Ramse
Loren, Patti, and Greg Ramse
Doris Randall

The week of Feb. 27 we pray for

Dan, Mary, Kristin, Joe, Isaac, and Sarah Rath
Esther Raymon
Joshua Reilly
Bob and Syl Reimers
Eileen Reynolds

We pray for these families and ask God to bless them and those they love with an abundance of mercy, love, faith and forgiveness.

From Janet's Desk



Summer Camps

Spring and summer really are on their way! I know this is true because the planning for Day Camp, Preschool Vacation Bible School and other camps is well underway. Preschoolers are invited to come May 22-25 for their chance to learn about Jesus and have a great time! We are registered for Ne-So-Dak Day Camp Counselors the week of July 10-14. Newton Hills will be expecting us for our adventure there! Registrations for Preschool VBS and Day Camp are in this issue of the VOICE. Our 6th Graders (going to 7th Grade) will be staying at Ne-So-Dak for Confirmation Camp June 19-24. We would love to have those registrations in as soon as possible. For a great family vacation, I would recommend Outlaw Ranch near Custer, SD. Horseback riding, fabulous meals, and a community of believers sharing time together are what being a camp family at Outlaw Ranch is all about! Look on the site www.losd.org for more information and registrations.

Thank You

A huge thank you to all the volunteers that work so hard to comfort CLC families that experienced the loss of a loved one. When you get that call to help serve, bring a salad, or provide cupcakes you should know that the families feel that you are supporting them and showing your concern through your gifts of time or food.

Ministry Scheduler Pro

Many of you have taken the time to check your Ministry Scheduler Pro profile and make additions and changes. Thank you! It makes the program work better to have the correct information from you! If you have

questions, be sure to ask me so that I can spend some time going over MSP with you.

Janet



February Circle Day

Thursday, February 10

Hope Circle – 9:30 am

Joy Circle – 12:00 pm

Faith Circle – 2:00 pm

January Opportunities

Feb. 2 - WELCA Board Meeting 1:00 pm

Feb. 8 - Mail annual "Love Letters"

Feb. 10 - Circle Day

Feb. 17 - Care & Share Quilting / Room 102

Feb. 18 - Union Gospel Auxiliary Meeting

Feb. 25 – Good Samaritan Birthday Party – Joy Circle

Feb. 26 – Saturday Women's Retreat

Program: Focusing on Lent & World

Hunger. Time and Place to be announced

February Altar Guild

Lisa Wright 764-5110

Patty Kroger 987-5702

Kay Haisch 764-5125

WOW Altar Guild

Susan Beachler 987-3011

Paula Keyman 359-7160

Ronda Headrick 764-5267

Lynda Johnson 764-4462 (substitute)

FEBRUARY 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	31	1	2 Groundhog Day 3:30 PM R.O.C.K. 6:00 PM ReVive 78 6:00 PM Route 56 6:00 PM Wednesday School 6:00 PM WOW Rehearsal 7:00 PM WOW Worship 7:30 PM Gospel Choir Rehearsal 8:00 PM High School Youth Group	3	4	5 9:00 AM Council Retreat 5:00 PM Worship with Holy Communion / Chapel
6 9:30 AM Worship with Holy Communion 10:30 AM Coffee & Fellowship / Library 10:30 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Faith & Fellowship Forum	7	8 Mailing W.E.L.C.A. Annual Love Letter	9 1:00 PM W.E.L.C.A. Board Mtg 3:30 PM R.O.C.K. 6:00 PM ReVive 78 6:00 PM Route 56 6:00 PM Wednesday School 6:00 PM WOW Rehearsal 7:00 PM WOW / Gr. 2-4 Singing 7:30 PM Gospel Choir Rehearsal 8:00 PM High School Youth Group	10 Circle Day 9:30 AM Hope Circle 12:00 PM Joy Circle 2:00 PM Faith Circle	11	12 5:00 PM Worship / Chapel
13 9:30 AM Worship /Gospel/ Gr. 2-5 Sing at Worship (Sun. School) 10:30 AM Coffee & Fellowship / Library 10:30 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Faith & Fellowship Forum	14  Valentine's Day	15	16 3:30 PM R.O.C.K. 6:00 PM ReVive 78 6:00 PM Route 56 6:00 PM Wednesday School 6:00 PM WOW Rehearsal 7:00 PM WOW Worship 8:00 PM High School Youth Group	17 1:00 PM Care & Share	18 11:30 AM Union Gospel Mission Auxiliary	19 5:00 PM Worship with Holy Communion / Chapel
20 9:30 AM Worship with Holy Communion 10:30 AM Coffee & Fellowship / Library 10:30 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Faith & Fellowship Forum	21 No School Presidents' Day	22	23 3:30 PM R.O.C.K. 6:00 PM ReVive 78 6:00 PM Route 56 6:00 PM Wednesday School 6:00 PM WOW Rehearsal 7:00 PM WOW Worship 7:30 PM Gospel Choir Rehearsal 8:00 PM High School Youth Group	24	25 Good Samaritan Birthday Party – Joy Circle Hosting	26 CLC Women's Retreat – time and place to be announced No Saturday Worship Services
27 Our Hands Together Sunday 9:30 AM Worship with Bishop Zellmer & Dakota Roads 10:30 AM Congregational Meal 10:30 AM Sunday School	28	1	2 3:30 PM R.O.C.K. 6:00 PM ReVive 78 6:00 PM Route 56 6:00 PM Wednesday School 6:00 PM WOW Rehearsal 7:00 PM WOW Worship 7:30 PM Gospel Choir Rehearsal 8:00 PM High School Youth Group	3 1:00 PM W.E.L.C.A. Board Mtg.	4 World Day of Prayer	5 5:00 PM Worship / Chapel

We're Going to Preschool Vacation Bible School!



Come Join Us!
May 22-25, 2011

Kids ages 3-5 that have not attended Kindergarten.

Classes held Sunday, May 22 -- Tuesday, May 24 from 6:30-8:00 pm

Family Potluck and Program: Wednesday, May 25 from 6:00 pm

----- *Return this portion.* -----

Child's Name _____ Date of Birth _____

Allergies _____

Names of Parents: _____

Home Address _____

email _____ phone _____

Yes! Our family can help with these things during VBS (please circle all that apply)

crafts storytelling snacks music teaching

preparation clean-up work at the potluck

Questions? Contact Janet at 764-2429 or janet@cantonlutheran.net

CLC Day Camp



July 10-14, 2011

Join your CLC friends for 4 days of fun, Bible study and outdoor activities at Newton Hills State Park! Children that have finished Kindergarten through Grade 5 are invited. We meet at 8:30 am each morning to travel to the park and return at 3:00 pm each day. Cost is \$40/child (make checks payable to Canton Lutheran Church).

Bring a water bottle, lunch, Bible, and be ready for a faith-filled, Bible-centered, fabulous day!

----- RETURN THIS PORTION WITH PAYMENT -----

I wish to register these campers:

_____ Grade Completed _____

_____ Grade Completed _____

Address (include city): _____

Names of Parents _____ e-mail: _____

Phone #s _____

Our family will help with Day Camp (provide food, chaperone, help with crafts, etc...) _____

Five Reasons to Tithe

The principle of tithing is just one part of stewardship as a way of life, and tithing is documented very early in the Old Testament. How early? Try Genesis; specifically, Genesis 28:10-22... "and of all that you give me I will surely give one tenth to you" (Gen. 28:22). This is the story of Jacob and it's one of the best tithing stories you can find, serving as evidence that stewardship is an ancient model for living; and tithing is our most ancient model for giving.

Tithing helps us worship God more in our lives. It encourages our spiritual growth and **trust in God**. Tithing is an important form of self discipline for both the motivated and the non-motivated. If you're not motivated in the realm of self discipline, what you begin to do from a sense of duty will eventually become your greatest source of joy. It's all part of God's provision for our trust-based relationship with him.

Tithing brings **God's wisdom to our finances**, exercising a healthy spiritual discipline over them, and helping us combat the destructive materialism and greed that destroys the lives of many. Although credit may have become a necessary "evil" for today's living, God never intended for us to spend more than we earn. When we plan to put God first in our lives, we plan to control destructive spending and borrowing.

Tithing provides the means to keep our pastors and missionaries in full-time service to God. The call to full-time ministry as employment is not given to many of us, but we all are called with the opportunity to **participate in ministry through our financial support**. Tithing makes that participation possible. It's one of the ways we are joined with other Christians around the world as the family of God.

Tithing strengthens the ministry, outreach and health of our congregations, molding us into true Christian communities of faith, love, and grace. This congregational strength is an important building block in our fulfillment of the greatest commandment, "Love your neighbor as yourself." When we stand together, we stand a chance of reaching and changing the world with the gospel.

So there you have it. Tithing is an ancient model. Tithing builds trust in God. Tithing brings God's wisdom to finances. Tithing provides ministry support. Tithing builds congregational strength. Tithing. Try it. You'll like it!



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Lutheran Church

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



February Newsletter 2011

Our Hands Together

*Celebrating and Strengthening our Mission
of Feeding the Hungry*

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27TH
9:30 Worship + 10:30 Meal**

OUR RALLYING CRY:

Wherever there is an ELCA congregation in South Dakota, no one will suffer from spiritual or physical hunger. We will feed the physically hungry with food from our abundance, and every person will hear the loving invitation to come and feast their hearts and souls upon the good news of Jesus Christ.



Music provided by Dakota Roads. Bishop David Zellmer preaching.