



The Abounding Joy Herald

Gathering in Joy - Reaching Out with God's Love
Thursday, February 22, 2024



The Second Sunday in Lent, Feb. 25, 2024

Worship is at 10:00 am

Three Worship Options: In-Person, Drive-in (88.5 FM), Video Message

GOD'S WORD Sunday's sermon will be posted to our church website and at www.ajlcmc.org as soon as possible. Prepare your hearts for worship on Sunday, February 25, and read: Psalm 37:3-7; 1 Corinthians 13:1-10; and Matthew 11:25-30.

RUTHLESS ELIMINATION OF HURRY & ADULT FORUM Join us on Sunday mornings for our Lenten journey through the series, "The Ruthless Elimination of Hurry." Thank you for picking up your books! We do have a couple extra copies available, so if you didn't get one but would like to, come talk to Marilyn. During the Adult Forum time at 9:00 a.m., we'll continue studying with the videos that accompany this series. Join us in worship and in class.

IN OUR PRAYERS: Jeffery Karbedeh, Ken Lucy, Jim (Joanie Peterson, Joyce Cass, & Jeanie Frolander's brother), Julie (Diane Spanier's sister), Martin (Margaret Rey's nephew), Kathy (Joyce Neyssen's niece), Shuler (Joyce Neyssen's great niece), Deb (Joyce Neyssen's cousin), Brian (Jane Armstrong's friend), Stephen (Erik & Miranda Berg's friend), Jan (Deb Hendrickson's friend), Faye (Madge Rowe's friend), and Mary Jo (Joyce Neyssen's friend).

PRAYER REQUESTS may be made by a request to our new volunteer Prayer Team coordinator Pr. Deb Peterson: 320-250-0647 and/or AJ.prayers@ajlcmc.org. She contacts the prayer team for prayer. Daily prayer will be offered for one month. If you wish to have continued prayer, please submit a new request.

INTERCESSORY PRAYER GROUP meets on Thursdays at 9:00 am at Abounding Joy. We invite you to join our intercessory prayer group led by Pastor Deb Peterson. We believe that we are called to not only pray FOR others, but to go into our community and pray WITH others. For more information contact Pastor Deb Peterson at 320-250-0647.

LADIES' NOON LUNCHEON is scheduled for tomorrow, Friday, February 23rd, at Applebee's (4190 W Division St, St Cloud). If you wish to attend, please call B.J. Peterson today (320-292-5964). All Abounding Joy ladies and friends are welcome.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to:

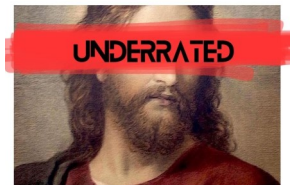
Judy Kopka

February

23



UNDERRATED On Wednesdays in Lent, join us for a meal at 5:30 p.m. followed by worship at 6:30 p.m. This year, our Wednesday evening series is called "Underrated." In Isaiah 53, we learn that the Messiah would be someone who wouldn't stand out in the normal ways, but in every way, He would be underrated. Throughout Jesus' life, He embodied five underrated characteristics that He invited His followers to also embody. As we journey together, we'll learn five key words from the Hebrew and Greek language that help us see how lasting Jesus' impact still is. Join us every Wednesday evening in fellowship and worship.



Note from the kitchen: Wednesday, Feb. 28 Lenten supper menu is soup and sandwich with dessert and beverage. A suggested donation of \$5 (18 and younger free) will be appreciated. Come and enjoy!

LADIES, the WOW (Women of the Word) Eat and Meet Winter General Gathering is on Tuesday, March 5, starting at 5:30 pm. "Sole Care" is the theme for this gathering. The evening begins with a light meal, a review of our ministries, new ministry ideas, and fellowship. We are excited to have our member, Deb Hendrickson, share a picture presentation of her mission journey based on John 13:1-17. There is a sign-up sheet on the info table. All ladies (members, friends, and visitors) are welcome and encouraged to spend an evening together!

Sunday, Feb. 18, 2024

ATTENDANCE: 116

OFFERINGS

General \$3,834

Building/Mortgage \$510

God's Word is Powerful and Sufficient

*"And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.
So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone,
and especially to those who are of the household of faith." (Galatians 6:9-10)*

It is so important for us to remember our history and the example of courageous people of faith. It is these people who point us to being faithful witnesses of Christ in our time and place.

The next history-maker I'd like to introduce (or reintroduce) you to is Corrie Ten Boom. Corrie lived in Holland at the same time as Dietrich Bonhoeffer, and played an instrumental role in protecting and saving the lives of numerous Jews as the Nazis occupied the Netherlands.

As the youngest daughter of the Ten Boom clan, Corrie joined in the family business of watchmaking. Corrie proved to be very astute with financial matters, and quickly began managing the business while also working. The family shop was also their home, a large building called "The Beje" located in Haarlem. Out of this building, many could come and find comfort or aid from the Ten Boom family.

Corrie not only served faithful in the family business, but was a dedicated woman to her church community. She loved serving in her church, and especially cared for young woman. She often taught "youth clubs" for the teenage girls, providing them with wisdom and instruction in the Christian faith.

Then, in 1940, things changed. As the Nazi regime took over the Netherlands, youth clubs were banned and stopped. Soon, Jewish people were being sought out and arrested. On a fateful night, one Jewish woman came to the Beje seeking refuge from the Ten Booms. From this moment on, the Ten Booms began a secret operation in their home to house, hide, and help Jewish people escape arrest from Nazis. These efforts would last for four years, and the Ten Boom's faith in Jesus guided them always.

However, the Nazis became aware of what the Ten Booms were doing. In 1944, their home was raided and they were arrested. Corrie was sent to Ravensbrück concentration camp, along with her older sister Betsie. Somehow, they smuggled a Bible in and led worship services for the women there, with many converting to Christianity due to their kind and faithful witness.

While Corrie struggled mentally being in the camp, Betsie reminded Corrie of God's goodness and to look for it. Many times, Corrie explains how she was surprised that God found her in that place. However, Betsie's health began to deteriorate drastically. She eventually succumbed to the poor treatment and passed away. While Corrie mourned, twelve days later, she received unexpected news in her release, due to a clerical error. She later learned that a week after her release, all women her age were placed in the gas chambers.

After WWII ended, Corrie continued to relentlessly share of the goodness of God despite such tragedies and devastation caused by the Nazis. She would later write a best-selling book called "The Hiding Place" detailing her life. She also reopened the Beje as a center for others to find refuge and spoke all over the world about faith in Jesus.

One of her most famous quotes is: "Do you know what hurts so very much? It's love. Love is the strongest force in the world, and when it is blocked that means pain. There are two things we can do when this happens. We can kill that love so that it stops hurting. But then of course part of us dies, too. Or we can ask God to open up another route for that love to travel."

Throughout the course of her life in service to Christ and others, Corrie modeled a person who asked God for routes for His love to travel through her. And she has. We thank God for faithful witnesses and history-makers like Corrie Ten Boom. *Pastor Brandon*

CHURCH COUNCIL UPDATE The Church Council met yesterday with the 3 newly elected members present. A New Business item was to elect officers. They are Kim Mielke (President), Bill Latore (Vice-President), Darlene Stover (Secretary), and Bruce Peterson (Treasurer). The rest of the members of our Council are Erik Bergs, Steve Hancock, Dennis Holland, Amy Krystosek, and Marc Schrantz. If you have a question/issue that you would like addressed, please talk with one of the Council members or attend a Council meeting (always posted on the calendar). The approved minutes of the Council meetings are printed and available for you to pick up from a pocket on the bulletin board as soon as they are available.

MEN'S FAITH TALK meets at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesdays. Come for some Bible focused discussion. ALL MEN are invited and encouraged to be part of this gathering.

HOLY WEEK

Maundy Thursday, March 28

6:30 pm Worship Service with Holy Communion
Good Friday, March 29

Noon and 6:30 pm Worship Service
Easter Sunday, March 31

7:00 am and 10:00 am Worship Celebration
with Holy Communion

This Week at Abounding Joy

Thursday, Feb. 22

6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Friday, Feb. 23

Noon Ladies' Luncheon at Applebee's

The Second Sunday in Lent, Sunday, Feb. 25

9:00 am Education Hour—Sunday School, Confirmation Classes, and Adult Forum

10:00 am Worship Service with Special Musician and Men's Ensemble

11:00 am Fellowship and Refreshments

2:30-5:00 pm Every Tribe and Tongue Worship

Monday, Feb. 26

6:30 pm Gospel Gals Small Group Bible Study

Tuesday, Feb. 27

10:00 am Selah Small Group Bible Study

1:15 pm Joyful Sisters Small Group Bible Study

6:30 pm Men's Ensemble Rehearsal

Wednesday, Feb. 28

9:00 am Men's Faith Talk

Noon Bible Study

1:15 pm Seekers Small Group Bible Study

5:30 pm Lenten Meal

6:30 pm Lenten Worship Service

Thursday, Feb. 29

9:00 am Intercessory Prayer Group Meets

6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal



The Abounding Joy Foundation

Brad Lundquist, President

Deb Hendrickson

Rick Bellrichard, Vice President

Al Kutz

Dan Tysver, Treasurer

Wally Osterholt

Greg Norman, Secretary

Pastor Brandon Foster, Non-voting member

Abounding Joy Lutheran Church

LCMC - Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (www.lcmc.net)

NALC - North American Lutheran Church (www.theNALC.org)

Ministers: All the people of *Abounding Joy*

Pastor Brandon Foster

Pastor Brandon's contact info: (701) 446-7561 email: Pastor.Brandon@ajlcmc.org

Director of Youth and Family Ministries: Tim Knorek

Tim's contact info: (507) 508-4128 email: tknorek@ajlcmc.org

Church Secretary: Marilyn Schultz

Custodian: Al Kutz

Ministers of Music: Ginny Shimota, Mary Schumann, Michelle Tomsche

Acoustic Joy Directors: Roger DeBoer and Cindi Rhoe

The Church Council welcomes your feedback and suggestions.

Kim Mielke, Pres. Bill Latare, Vice-Pres. Darlene Stover, Sec. Bruce Peterson, Treas.

Erik Bergs Steve Hancock Dennis Holland Amy Krystosek Marc Schrantz

6000 County Road 120, St. Cloud, MN 56303

Phone: (320) 217-8784 **Email:** general.info@ajlcmc.org OR bulletin@ajlcmc.org

Website: www.aboundingjoy.org

Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday, 9:00 am-2:00 pm