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# Tabor Lutheran News

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February 2023

Monthly Newsletter

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## To the Saints

“Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death.” (Romans 6:3)

What do you think about baptism, Holy Baptism that is? Is it special? Why do you think it is special? What does it do?

“People often diminish the significance of baptism by presuming that baptism is a human work. Of course, baptism is not very important if it is my work, effort, or offering. What we do is filth in comparison to what God works and does. Thus baptism will be held in high regard only where it is understood as God’s gracious work to give new birth through the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit. If Baptism is truly by water and the Holy Spirit then it is so much greater than any human work because it is God’s gracious activity. ... God’s works always do what God says they do. So faith in baptism is nothing other than faith in Christ; the death of Christ, the resurrection of Christ, which are received through baptism. All this is received through baptism by faith.” (Rev. Dr. Scott Murray, 12-12-22)

In the Large Catechism Luther likewise states, “It is often objected, ‘If baptism is itself a work and you say that works are of no use for salvation, what becomes of faith?’ To this you may answer: Yes, it is true that our works are of no use for salvation. Baptism, however, is not our work but God’s. God’s works are salutary and necessary for salvation, and they do not exclude but

rather demand faith, for without faith they could not be grasped. Just by allowing the water to be poured over you, you do not receive baptism in such a manner that it does you any good. But it becomes beneficial to you if you accept it as God’s command and ordinance, so that, baptized in the name of God, you may receive in the water the promised salvation. This the hand cannot do nor the body, but the heart must believe it.

Thus you see clearly that baptism is not a work which we do but is a treasure which God gives us and faith grasps, just as the Lord Christ upon the cross is not a work but a treasure comprehended and offers to us in the Word and received by faith. Therefore they are unfair when they cry out against us as though we preach against faith. Actually, we insist on faith alone as so necessary that without it nothing can be received or enjoyed.” (Luther’s Large Catechism, 4.35-37)



Together on the Way!  
Pastor Stoll

Paula and I would like to take this opportunity to thank each of the congregations and also all of you individually for your gifts to us through the Christmas season. Receiving gifts has never been easy for us. We can only say thank you to you and praise to the Lord for the generosity his has put into your heart. Our prayer is that his love, forgiveness, and generosity will overflow from you into all other parts of the ministry of Jesus here in this world.

Together on the Way!  
Pastor and Paula Stoll

## February Birthdays

- 2 Jason Lambrecht  
Sandra McCarthy
- 3 Earl Kahler
- 10 Deanna Tachick  
Jeffrey Fredenburgh  
Lois Kahler
- 12 Steven Wendt
- 16 Kyle Anderson
- 17 Jennifer Elbe
- 18 Erin Moede
- 20 Daniel Lambrecht
- 22 Glen Seering
- 24 Lisa Buchert  
Timothy Buchert  
Gail Bahr
- 26 Tasha Urban  
Jennifer Eichman
- 29 Lori Sampson

## February Anniversaries

- 25 Don and Carol Butrymowicz

## February Counters

- 5 Donna Tetzlaff and Sandy Sandri
- 12 Bill and Tracy Brooks
- 19 Orv and Bette Quandt
- 26 Donna Tetzlaff and Sandy Sandri

## February Ushers

- 5 Brian and Diane Fitzpatrick
- 12 Arnie Bubolz and Gary Kebschull
- 19 Eugene and Mark Krueger
- 26 Jim and Cheryl Jawort

## February Altar Committee

February--Brenda Urban and Bette Quandt  
March--Janet Strobusch and Diane Fitzpatrick

There comes a time in life when you walk away from all the drama and people who create it. Surround yourself with people who make you laugh, forget the bad, and focus on the good. Love the people who treat you right. Pray for the ones who don't. Life is too short to be anything but happy. Falling down is a part of life, getting back up is living.



## The Imposition of Ashes

For nearly a thousand years, these words have been spoken to young and old alike as the sign of the cross is traced on their foreheads with ashes – the Imposition of Ashes, as it has come to be known. During the last half of the 20th century, Lutherans have also begun to make use of this ancient rite, and indeed, it has been approved for use in the forthcoming Lutheran Service Book. And so, as our catechism is prone to ask: “What does this mean?” Where did this rite come from and how can it be used meaningfully in LCMS congregations today?

### Ashes in the Bible

The Bible contains a number of references to ashes and dust (Joshua 7:6; 1 Samuel 1:2, 15:32; Job 2:12, 16:15; Jeremiah 25:34). In fact, the Lord’s curse on Adam, “dust you are, and to dust you shall return” (Gen. 3:19) is echoed in the Imposition of Ashes formula. In the New Testament, Jesus declares: “Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the mighty works done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes.” Thus, in the Bible, ashes carry a two-fold meaning: as a sign of human mortality and as a sign of public repentance.

*The Imposition of Ashes continued on Page 4, Column 1*

**Lutheran Hour, February 2023**

**February 5**

“Your Time to Shine”

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. John Nunes

Light is necessary for life; God’s light, even more so.  
(Matthew 5:14-16)

**February 12**

“Shine Like Stars”

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

A social media star with a million followers can’t possibly know all one million of them. However, there is one really famous Person with billions of followers Who knows--and loves--each one.

(1 Corinthians 3:6-7)

**February 19**

“Table Manners”

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

(Exodus 24:11)



**February 26**

“It Begins with Who I Am”

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Dean Nadasdy

Our identity defines us. Every decision we make, every action we take, and every temptation we face begins with who we are. In Christ we receive an identity uncompromised and secure.

(Matthew 4:1-11)

Radio Broadcasts					
Station	City, State	Freq	Band	Day	Time
WRVM	Powers, MI	98.9	FM	Sun	10:00 AM
WRVM	Appleton, WI	101.7	FM	Sun	10:00 AM
WRVM	Ellison Bay, WI	103.1	FM	Sun	10:00 AM
WTMJ	Milwaukee, WI	620	AM	Sun	6:30 AM
WRVM	North Fond du Lac, WI	88.5	FM	Sun	10:00 AM
WJMQ	Shawano, WI	92.3	FM	Sun	7:30 AM
WTCH	Shawano, WI	960	AM	Sun	7:30 AM
WRVM	Sturgeon Bay, WI	103.3	FM	Sun	10:00 AM

**God’s Bounty**

**Mexicalispaghetti Bake**

- 2 cups - 1/2 spaghetti noodles
- 1 pound ground chuck
- 1 large green pepper, minced
- 4 cups of diced tomatoes
- 1 Tablespoon salt
- 1 1/2 teaspoon chili powder
- 1 can of ripe pitted olives
- 1/4 cup olive oil (can omit)
- 1 large onion, minced
- 1 clove garlic (can omit)
- 2 cans of cream corn (about 2 1/2 cups)
- 1/4 teaspoon black pepper
- 1 teaspoon Worcestershire

**Directions**

Cook spaghetti as package directs, drain. Start heating oven to 325 degrees. Meanwhile, saute chuck in oil in skillet until partly browned. Add onion, pepper, and garlic. When chuck is browned, add spaghetti, tomatoes, corn, salt, pepper, chili powder, Worcestershire, and olives. Turn into two 1 1/2 quart casserole dishes. Bake for one hour covered.

Makes 8 servings.

*The Imposition of Ashes continued from Page 2, Column 2*

### **Ashes in Church History**

This understanding carried over into the early and medieval church. Tertullian (ca. 160-225) describes the use of sackcloth and ashes in the penance of an adulterer before his pastor. Originally, ashes were reserved only for public penitents—i.e., murderers, adulterers and others who had fallen away from the church but desired reconciliation. The beginning of Lent became a primary season of the church year for that to take place.

By the 12th century, ashes became associated with the beginning of Lent, thus providing the first day of Lent with its name, Ash Wednesday. By the time of the Reformation, the Imposition was a mainstay of Lenten piety and practice. However, Lutherans at the time of the Reformation did not choose to retain the Imposition of Ashes. Thus, although Lutherans began Lent with Ash Wednesday, they did not retain the use of ashes.

### **Ashes Today?**

A contemporary Lutheran appropriation of the Imposition of Ashes should begin with the two-fold biblical understanding of ashes: as a sign of our mortality and as a sign of our repentance. Likewise, the traditional formula, “You are dust, and to dust you shall return” is appropriate, since it paraphrases the words of God in the Garden of Eden. By receiving the ashes, the worshipper acknowledges that God’s judgment against our sin is right and just. But the ashes are also made in the sign of the cross – the very instrument by which our Lord took upon himself the punishment for our sin, in our place. Thus, the cross of ashes serves to remind us that we are sinners, and that Christ died for us sinners.

The rite begins the service for Ash Wednesday, with the pastor calling the congregation to observe the holy season of Lent: Dear Brothers and sisters of our Lord Jesus Christ, on this day the Church begins a holy season of prayerful and penitential reflection. Our attention is especially directed to the holy sufferings and death of our Lord Jesus Christ. From ancient times the season of Lent has been kept as a time of special devotion, self-denial, and humble repentance born of a faithful heart that dwells confidently on His Word and draws from it life and hope...

The congregation might join in praying the ancient Litany, or it may conclude with prayers. When the Litany or prayers conclude, the pastor and assistants receive ashes first, followed by the congregation. Using the right thumb, the pastor or assistant places the ashes on the forehead of each person, saying, “Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.”

So what happens after you leave Ash Wednesday with those ashes on your forehead? The first thing that happens is that you go out into the world where others will see that cross on your forehead. Your silent witness has been given; you have been marked as one redeemed by Christ crucified.

But the other thing that happens is that you will eventually go home and wash those dirty ashes off your face. And doesn’t that water also become a concrete, tactile reminder of the water of your baptism, where your sins were washed away forever? God’s grace abounds!

### **Tabor Lutheran Church Council Meeting**

Friday, January 13, 2023, 9:00 a.m.

**PRESENT:** Pastor Steven Stoll, Eugene Krueger, Cheryl Jawort, John Francis, Orville Quandt, Janet Strohbush and Rick Gipp. **Guests:** Bette Quandt, Nancy Krueger, and James Vorpahl.

The meeting was called to order at 8:56 a.m. by President Krueger. A motion was made by Rick Gipp and seconded by Cheryl Jawort to approve the agenda. Motion carried. Pastor Stoll gave an opening devotion and prayer. A motion was made by Janet Strohbush and seconded by Rick Gipp to approve the minutes of the December 13, 2022 meeting. Motion carried. The treasurer’s report was distributed and discussed by John Francis. A motion was made by Cheryl Jawort and seconded by Janet Strohbush to approve the treasurer’s report. Motion carried.

**PASTOR’S REPORT:** Pastor Stoll explained how the voting will occur for Synod President, 1st Vice President, and Regional Vice President. The theme for Lenten Services will be *Places of the Passion*. The funeral service for Korrin Moede will be Saturday, April 22. The

funeral service for Jean Forrest will be Saturday, May 20. A motion was made by John Francis and seconded by Janet Strobusch to accept Pastor's Report. Motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Orville Quandt reported on the new doors. They should start arriving in a couple weeks. Nancy Krueger gave an update on the Carpet Committee. The inactive member list will be discussed at next month's meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS:** John Francis led a discussion regarding the 2023 budget that will be presented at the annual congregational meeting on Sunday, January 29.

Council members' responsibilities, new and current, will be reviewed at the February meeting.

The next council meeting will be Friday, February 10 at 9 a.m. A motion was made by Rick Gipp and seconded by Janet Strobusch to adjourn. Motion carried. Pastor Stoll led us in closing with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Cheryl Jawort

### **Tabor Ladies Aid Meeting** (January 17, 2023)

Four members and Pastor Stoll were present for the Bible Study titled "Dilemmas and Decisions". Pastor Stoll opened with a prayer and led the group telling of the dilemmas Abram encountered when he was told by the Lord that he was moving to an unknown destination. It does not help to worry about the dilemmas thrown our way. Have faith, move forward with the plans the Lord has for you. (Icy roads kept many members from attending the January meeting.)

The meeting was called to order by President Be Quandt. A motion to accept the minutes of the December 13 meeting was made by Nancy Krueger, seconded by Tracy Brooks. Motion passed. The Treasurer's report was sent via text from Diane Fitzpatrick (read by Be Quandt). The checkbook balance is \$2,252.77 and Extension fund is \$12,899.72. Tracy Brooks made a motion to accept the report, seconded by Nancy Krueger. Motion passed.

**OLD BUSINESS:** The Christmas decorations and trees were taken down on January 10. The 88 Chrismons

were carefully packed away. We served 23 at the potluck lunch that followed. Thanks to Nancy Krueger for organizing joyful games of Holiday Bingo. Everyone was 'lucky' at winning prizes. We have only 14 completed quilts.

**NEW BUSINESS:** We will be serving brunch before the annual meeting on Sunday, January 29. Nancy Krueger has been successful in obtaining Thrivent team project funds to cover the costs of the meal. The menu was finalized with some members doing the shopping and others volunteering to make coffee cakes. Election of Ladies Aid Officers will be held at the February meeting. All ladies are considered to be members of the Ladies Aid and are encouraged to attend. Bette Quandt will lead the Bible Study "Transforming Faith: A Gift from a Faithful God".

Our next meeting will be on February 14, 2023. Betty closed the meeting with a prayer.

Ev Charlson, Secretary

### **Meal Site/Nutrition Center**

The Oconto County Commission on Aging is delivering meals for seniors to the Town of Mountain Community Center on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. The meals are planned by a nutritionist at the Commission of Aging and delivered hot to the Community Center for eat-in or take-out. Available to anyone over 60 years of age--surrounding towns are welcome. A donation of \$4 is requested.



**Tabor Lutheran Church Special Funds - December 2022**

Acct #	Name	Beg. Balance	Deposit	Interest	Deductions	End. Balance
	Flower Fund** (not included in totals)	1,104.24	256.00			1,260.24
6961	Scholarship Fund	\$ 10,440.32		\$ 5.54		\$ 10,445.86
9486	Winter Savings	9,284.51		4.93		9,289.44
8722	General Fund	41,741.12		22.16		41,763.28
7894	Parsonage Improvements	1,899.49	300.00	1.13		2,200.62
7906	Church Building/Maintenance Door Fund--In Above	9,473.99	<u>764.00</u>	5.33		10,243.32
7759	Bequest Fund	17,673.70		9.38		17,683.08
8298	CD 40 Month Fixed 4%	<u>11,515.06</u>		<u>54.42</u>		<u>11,569.48</u>
TOTAL ALL SPECIAL FUNDS		\$102,028.19	\$1,064.00	\$102.89		\$103,195.08

\*Interest paid quarterly (\$0.125%)

\*\*In checking account

**Tabor Lutheran Church Income/Expense Report - December 2022**

Beginning Balance 12/01/22	1,701.88
December Income:	
General Income .....	7,217.00
Loose .....	353.00
Thrivent Choice.....	178.00
From Emmanuel .....	2,901.67
Flowers .....	256.00
Wolf River High School .....	42.00
Other/Door Fund.....	3,740.00
Other General.....	143.00
Ron Lange .....	<u>100.00</u>
Total December Income	14,930.67
December Expenses:	
1 - NW District Budgeted .....	1,166.67
12 - Pastor's Salary .....	5,981.46
13 - Insurance/Retirement .....	2,379.14
16 - Pastor's Mileage .....	239.38
17 - Parsonage Utilities.....	238.93
21 - Church Phone/Internet.....	142.30
22 - Office Supplies .....	11.66
30 - Custodian Wages .....	83.11
31 - Church Utilities .....	359.41
36 - To LCEF Building Fund.....	3,740.00
37 - To Parsonage Improvement Budgeted .....	300.00
42 - Gifts .....	200.00
43 - Pass Through .....	200.00
46B - Groundskeeping Snow.....	50.00
5 - Organist .....	404.62
51B - Door Offering WRLHS .....	100.00
54 - Administrator .....	665.60
5A - Organist/Buttons .....	46.17
6 - Worship Supplies .....	<u>301.94</u>
Total December Expenses	(16,610.39)
Ending Balance 12/31/22	\$ 22.16

# FEBruary 2023



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			<b>01</b>	<b>02</b>	<b>03</b>	<b>04</b>
				9:00 a.m. Bible Study @ Tabor 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Meals for Seniors @ Mtn. Community Center		
<b>05</b>	<b>06</b>	<b>07</b>	<b>08</b>	<b>09</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
8:30 a.m. Divine Service w/ Holy Communion	PASTOR'S DAY OFF	9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Ladies Aid Quilting 9:00 a.m.-Noon Circuit Pastors @ Mt. Olive, Suring 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Meals for Seniors*		9:00 a.m. Bible Study @ Tabor 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Meals for Seniors @ Mtn. Community Center	9:00 a.m. Board Meeting	Ruby's Pantry @ Gillett HS 7:30-9:30 a.m. Registration
<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
8:30 a.m. Divine Service w/ Holy Communion <b>Mites Collected</b>	PASTOR'S DAY OFF	9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Ladies Aid Meeting Quilting after Meeting 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Meals for Seniors*	9:30 a.m. Worship @ The Bay in Suring 1:00 p.m. Worship @ Serenity Gardens in Gillett	9:00 a.m. Bible Study @ Tabor 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Meals for Seniors @ Mtn. Community Center		
<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
8:30 a.m. Divine Service w/ Holy Communion	PASTOR'S DAY OFF	9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Ladies Aid Quilting 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Meals for Seniors*	ASH WEDNESDAY 4:00 p.m. Divine Service w/ Holy Communion @ Tabor 7:00 p.m. @ Emmanuel	9:00 a.m. Bible Study @ Tabor 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Meals for Seniors @ Mtn. Community Center		
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>				
8:30 a.m. Divine Service w/ Holy Communion WRLHS Offering	PASTOR'S DAY OFF	9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Ladies Aid Quilting 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Meals for Seniors*			*Meals for Seniors @ Mtn. Commu- nity Center	

## Hello from Ron Lange in Ethiopia

Monday, January 16, I received a phone call from Ron. He wanted me to tell everyone that he has arrived safely and is in a safe town.

Procedures have changed since the last time he was here. He visited the prison and measured for the painting; however, he had to gift \$350 to the prisoners and the guards to get in. The money went towards soap,

and Ron said they can use it for their body or clothes. Some of the prisoners don't even have clothes, and they sleep naked without any blankets on a dirt floor.

He has purchased lumber for the frames, but is hard to make a decent frame when the lumber isn't straight.

Communication has been difficult. He will be calling me again in a couple of weeks. Until next time.

## **Tabor Lutheran Church**

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**Address Service Requested**

# **ALL ARE WELCOME!**



**Sunday Service 8:30 a.m.**

**Communion is celebrated every Sunday of each month; plus Holy Days**