



the word

March 2018 | Monthly News from Crown of Life Church

Mark Your Calendar

- 3/1**
Pioneers Meeting
- 3/3**
St. Croix Spelling Bee/Math Bowl
- 3/9**
Upper Grade Musical
- 3/10**
Upper Grade Musical
Pioneer District Pine Car Derby
- 3/11**
Daylight Savings Time Starts
- 3/15**
Pioneer Meeting
- 3/19 - 3/25**
SPRING BREAK
- 3/20**
FILLING EGGS - WSP - 1 pm
- 3/24**
EGG HUNT - EAGAN - 10 am
- 3/30**
GOOD FRIDAY - NO SCHOOL
- 3/31**
EGG HUNT - WSP - 10 am

What's your greatest fear?

BY PASTOR ZACHARY PUDLO

A Public View of Fear

Have you ever watched Family Feud? It's a game show which makes families guess what the mass public opinion is on certain topics. As an example, the contestants would guess what people fear most. The contestants' goal is to guess the top answers people gave when they were surveyed. Little common known fact: people have several fears greater than death including speaking in public, heights and flying. Let's play a round of Family Feud. Church goes around the world were surveyed about the thing they dislike hearing about in church the most. Survey says the top two answers are...sin and money.

The Christian observance of Ash Wednesday is highly focused on sin and repentance, the #1 least favorite topic for people to hear about in church. Yet, isn't it interesting that worship attendance for Ash Wednesday is higher than any other service throughout the year other than Easter and Christmas? Why do you suppose that is? If people fear and dislike the topic of sin the most, why is Ash Wednesday one of the best attended services in all of Christianity?

The Biblical View of Fear

The Apostle Paul talks about things we shouldn't fear in Romans 8. "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?... For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the

continued

What's your greatest fear?... continued

present nor the future, nor any powers, 39 neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord." Paul lists off all the things people tend to fear: the unknown of the future, the pain of death, the power of evil spirits etc. But he says none of these things are worth worrying about or fearing. Why not? Because they cannot separate us from God's love.

Just the other day the thought popped into my head about what it is I fear most. I thought to myself, "Is it death? No. Is it losing loved ones? Maybe. Is it myself? Yes! That's it." Why? It ties into what the Bible says about the amazing power we do have.

Romans 2:8 But for those who are self-seeking and who *reject the truth* and follow evil, there will be wrath and anger.

Matthew 23:37 O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but *you were not willing*.

Acts 7:51 You stiff-necked people, with uncircumcised hearts and ears! You are just like your fathers: *You always resist the Holy Spirit!*

These passages show what we should fear...our own ability. Notice these passages don't say we have the ability to remove God's love from us. However, they do say we have the frightening ability to reject the love God has for us. That's what I fear most...my own foolishness and ability to turn away from the Lord.

Removing the Fear

A misconception may be that Lent is about probing and pointing fingers at our sins, and thereby adding to our fears. Lent is actually a season where we look to attack and address the thing we fear the most, our own sinful nature. Martin Luther summarizes it well when

he describes repentance in the context of Baptism. He explains, "Baptism means that the old Adam in us should be drowned by daily contrition and repentance, and that all its evil deeds and desires be put to death. It also means that a new person should daily arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever."

Martin Luther gives us great advice for attacking our fear head on. Daily turn to the Lord. When we lay our fears and failures, our flaws and our sins at Jesus' feet his response is not to turn away from us. His response forgiveness. His default mode is love.

Spiritual Discipline

So how do we put this into practice. It takes discipline. When you think of discipline, what thought pops into your head? For many of us it might be the thoughts of childhood when we were sent to our rooms in timeout. But at its core, discipline is quite different from punishment. It is a word that involves practice and dedication. That's what it takes to drive away fear from our hearts...daily practice and dedication.

When I think of a disciplined athlete I picture an athlete who follows a daily regimen. It involves getting up early, eating healthily, practicing his/her craft, and never taking time off. That's the same mentality God wants us to have in our Christian discipline. Ten year old athletes don't find themselves in professional sports. Why not? They haven't had time to mature and grow as athletes. They haven't gone through the stages of discipline. The same is true of spiritual discipline. It takes time and a process. This Lent take some time to consider how you can set up a plan of growing in your spiritual maturity and discipline. Consider how you can add daily prayer, individual and group Bible studies, and different acts of service to your spiritual disciplines. As you do, God bless your efforts to fight your fears and grow in your trust in his unending, undying, inseparable love for you.

It's Egg Hunt Season



Egg Stuffing - March 20 – 1:00 pm WSP

Eagan Hunt Day - March 24

WSP Hunt Day - March 31

We need help stuffing, hiding, greeting, snacking, setting up and taking down. Donating more your thing? We could use candy or plastic eggs. Drop off in office by March 17. Sign up: <http://church.crownoflifemn.org/volunteer>

Learning from Kindergarteners

I stopped by the kindergarten art exhibit celebrating the 100th day of school. The event was full of excitement and mind-blowing information. The preschoolers also stopped by to see the masterpieces. Mrs. Johnson informed them, "There's something very special for you in the lunch room." One preschooler exclaimed, "I hope it's Jesus!" It wasn't.

100 is a BIG Number

Once the exhibit was opened to the preschoolers, many questions were raised and insightful answers were given. Included among them were, "Who has questions about the exhibits?" Response: "One hundred is a big number."



Other responses throughout the day included: "Legos come from Target. That's a store." "Buttons come from Sam's Club." "The sun is a circle. Like a button."

The one thing that became apparent to me, Kid's say the darndest things!



Mr. Noack and his 7th graders were at it again! Great Message!!

[View video:](#) on Crown of Life Schools Facebook page

Crown of Life School

presents

PETER PAN



Friday, March 9, 6:30 pm
Saturday, March 10, 1 pm

Tickets

\$5.00 – Adults

\$2.00 – Students (PreK-8)

Ages 3 and under are free

Admission charged to help defray expenses.

St. Croix's Night to Shine - *Members in Motion*

BY LORNA KAPANKE



For the second year, St. Croix Lutheran Academy was honored to host Night to Shine, sponsored by the Tim Tebow Foundation. Night to Shine is an unforgettable prom night experience, centered on God's love, for people with special needs, ages 14 and older. On one night, February 9, 2018, 537 churches and schools from around the world came together to host Night to Shine for approximately 90,000 honored guests through the support of 175,000 volunteers!

Night to Shine 2018 at St. Croix Lutheran was an extraordinary night that brought together over 225 honored guests, their parents/caretakers, and over 500 volunteers, including students, staff, alumni, association congregation members, and community members. The student volunteers, over 250 strong, primarily served as buddies to each of the honored guests. Having the opportunity to crown each of the honored guests Kings and Queens of the

prom was a true privilege. A parent of one of the guests wrote, "Honestly, I have never been a part of anything so heartwarming in my life!!" Another mom wrote, "Please thank everyone involved for really creating memories and acceptance for individuals with special needs. It is so special that for three hours they have such positive and loving attention placed on them!"

An important goal of the Night to Shine movement is to change the narrative on how individuals with special needs are viewed. In a world where human life is often not properly valued, Night to Shine presents the St. Croix Lutheran community and students the opportunity to celebrate the gift of life in a meaningful way. Students have the opportunity to grow in empathy, selflessness, compassion while reaching out to honored guests with the message of God's love – the message that all lives are extraordinarily important to God.





As a host of Night to Shine, St. Croix Lutheran receives a grant from the Tim Tebow Foundation which helps offset the cost of the event. This year the Foundation grant covered approximately one-third of the event cost. The remaining expenses were covered by businesses and private donors who have a special place in their hearts for the honored guests and generously offered their services and donations. The evening is completely complimentary for the honored guests. In an effort to grow Night to Shine into an even larger worldwide movement, the grant received by the Tim Tebow Foundation decreases each year as each host takes on more of the costs. This model allows Night to Shine to grow worldwide, impacting more individuals' lives.

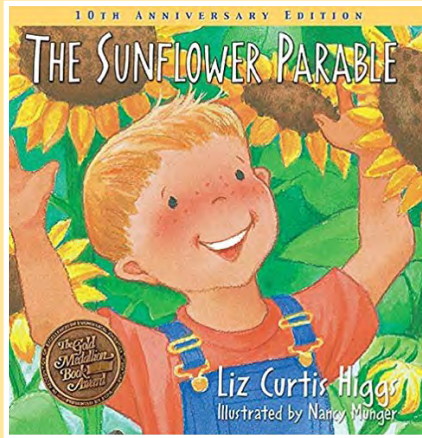
“Thank you so very
much for making these
kids feel special
❤️ ❤️ ❤️” - a mom

Night to Shine 2018 was the perfect opportunity for the honored guests to do just that – SHINE! As one student volunteer said, “I remember ALL THE SMILES!! It brought me so much joy to see all of the smiles on everyone’s faces.”



“The Sunflower Parable”

★★★★★



REVIEWED BY JACLYN OLSON | CHRISTIAN

The Sunflower Parable follows Logan, a boy who lives in the country and wants to plant a B-I- G plant that will grow so tall it reaches the sky. He picks out sunflower seeds, carefully plants and cultivates them, working the soil, moving big rocks, and patiently waiting through the summer for his seeds to grow. He waters them, watches them grow, and wonders how long it will take to bloom and how large they will grow. He watches his siblings’ plants grow, and notices that even though their plants grow high, his sunflowers grow still higher. When the sunflowers stop growing and the birds begin to forage around them, Logan is disappointed. His father, the farmer discusses how the corn his brother planted provides food for people, the hollyhocks his sister planted would come back next year, and the sunflowers produce seeds that can be used and planted again, in accordance with God’s will and plan. Logan rejoices in God’s plan and enjoys sharing the seeds his flowers produced with others.

This is a really sweet book that discusses patience, the fruitfulness of hard work, collaborative work, and trust in God’s providence. The author includes Scripture references on every page that show how God discusses all of these things in His Word. This is a great book for really young children, as well as those who are learning to read and beginning to memorize Bible verses.

TREASURER – Fiscal Year 7/16 to 6/17

January ended the fiscal year to date (FYTD) with \$988,964 in total income with expected budget income to be \$924,116 (\$64,848 above budget. \$21,000 of this amount are special donations for the Pre-K playground.) Jan. Envelope Offerings were \$35,659 more than budgeted. Expenses (FYTD) were \$959,624 (FYTD \$19,582.) We owe \$40,000 to our special funds account and current available balance is \$11,839.

DEATH – Robert Learmann died on 2/1/18, funeral at WSP campus with Pastor Kom 2/9/18.

BAPTISM – Savannah Rae Berg daughter of Bryan and Nicolette Berg on 2/11/18 with Pastor Kom

– Reinhart Wayne Immanuel Fries son of Matthew and Cassandra Fries on 2/11/18 with Pastor Pudlo

Welcome New Members



Pastor Fred and Janet Kogler

– We are happy to be with you again. Since 2010 Fred has been selling real-estate, teaching college courses, filling vacancies and serving as Pastor at Emmanuel in Hudson. He also spent 6 years

on the Special Ministry Board of the Wisconsin Synod. Janet has been working as a para in the special education department at Sibley. In our free time we enjoy homemade pie, wood turning, gardening, writing Facebook devotions, fishing and family.



Chris and Kathryn Eckhardt

recently moved to Apple Valley. Chris works for Ameriprise as an Investment Analyst and Kathryn works for Mayo Clinic as an Industrial Engineer. They met in college at Auburn

University. In their free time, they enjoy a good cup of coffee, cooking, and being outside. Chris’s hobbies include data science and studying for the CFA Level III Exam. Kathryn’s hobbies include swing dancing and knitting.

New members not Pictured:

– **Bryan and Nicolette Berg and Savannah**
– **Mitchell Johnson**

Culver's Night

February 27 4-7 pm



MARCH CALENDAR

Thursday, March 1

2:30 pm Southview Sr. Living Service
6:30 pm Adult Craft Club-WSP
Pioneers Regular Meeting

Saturday, March 3

St. Croix Spelling Bee / Math Bowl
5:00 pm Worship EGN

Sunday, March 4

8:00 am Worship WSP
9:00 am Worship EGN
9:15 am Education Hour-WSP
10:15 am Education Hour-EGN
10:30 am Worship WSP
3:00 pm New Member Class

Monday, March 5

3:15 pm Lego Club
6:30 pm Worship WSP
7:00 pm Mary/Martha - WSP

Tuesday, March 6

10:00 am The Commons on Marice
Sr. Living Service
7:00 pm Evangelism

Wednesday, March 7

4:00 pm Worship WSP
5:15 pm Confirmation Class WSP
Light Dinner WSP
6:30 pm Worship WSP
7:00 pm Worship EGN
8:00 pm Praise Band Reh
Senior Choir practice

Thursday, March 8

2:30 pm Southview Sr. Living Service
7:00 pm Elders-WSP

Friday, March 9

8:00 am Matins & Muffins / Panera
6:30 pm Upper Grade Musical

Saturday, March 10

9:00 am Pioneers District
Pine Car Derbies
1:00 pm Upper Grade Musical
5:00 pm Worship EGN

Sunday, March 11

Praise Service
Daylight Saving Time starts
8:00 am Worship WSP
9:00 am Worship EGN
9:15 am Education Hour-WSP
10:15 am Education Hour-EGN
10:30 am Worship WSP
3:00 pm New Member Class

Monday, March 12

6:30 pm Worship WSP
7:30 pm Worship Committee

Tuesday, March 13

10:00 am The Commons on Marice
Sr. Living Service
6:30 pm Education
Properties
Handbell rehearsal
7:15 pm Stewardship

Wednesday, March 14

4:00 pm Worship WSP
5:15 pm Confirmation Class WSP
Light Dinner WSP
6:30 pm Worship WSP
7:00 pm Worship EGN
8:00 pm Senior Choir practice

Thursday, March 15

2:30 pm Southview Sr. Living Service
6:30 pm Pioneers Regular Meeting
7:00 pm Riverview Cemetery

Saturday, March 17

5:00 pm Worship EGN

Sunday, March 18

8:00 am Worship WSP
9:00 am Worship EGN
9:15 am Education Hour-WSP
10:15 am Education Hour-EGN
10:30 am Worship WSP
3:00 pm New Member Class

Monday, March 19

Spring Break Begins - NO SCHOOL
6:30 pm Worship WSP

Tuesday, March 20

10:00 am The Commons on Marice
Sr. Living Service
Filling Eggs-WSP
7:00 pm Council-EGN

Wednesday, March 21

4:00 pm Worship WSP
5:15 pm Confirmation Class WSP
Light Dinner WSP
6:30 pm Worship WSP
7:00 pm Worship EGN
8:00 pm Senior Choir practice

Thursday, March 22

2:30 pm Southview Sr. Living Service

Saturday, March 24

10:00 am Easter Egg Hunt-Eagan
5:00 pm Worship EGN

Sunday, March 25

8:00 am Worship WSP
9:00 am Worship EGN
9:15 am Education Hour-WSP
10:15 am Education Hour-EGN
10:30 am Worship WSP
3:00 pm New Member Class

Monday, March 26

2:30 pm Lilydale Sr. Living Service
6:30 pm Worship WSP
7:00 pm Youth & Adult Education

Tuesday, March 27

10:00 am The Commons on Marice
Sr. Living Service

Wednesday, March 28

5:15 pm Confirmation Class WSP

Thursday, March 29

2:30 pm Southview Sr. Living Service
6:30 pm Worship WSP
7:00 pm Worship EGN

Friday, March 30

NO SCHOOL - Good Friday
12:00 pm Worship WSP
6:30 pm Worship WSP
7:00 pm Worship EGN

Saturday, March 31

10:00 am Easter Egg Hunt-WSP
12:00 pm Pioneers Easter Breakfast
Set-up
5:00 pm NO-Worship EGN

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

1 Joel Gerke	7 Trinity Belmares	13 Jordan Myhre	20 Elizabeth Duff	26 Majia Mullins
Rachel Montgomery	Nancy Klocow	Bethany Otterstatter	Rachelle Johnston	Marley Mullins
Kathy Patton	Chad Little	Pastor Dustin Sievert	Bobby Marrier	Nicole Paul
Nicholas Spott	8 Colin Fischbach	14 Paula Gaedtke	Alexis Rathje	27 Stanley Bougie
Timothy Stettner	Robert Garcia	Kristina Gurgel	Vincent Rider	David Danner
Charles Wagen-	Olivia Nichols	Jeffrey Jensen	21 Megan Diaz	28 Vivian Burgess
knecht	8 David Noack	Bobbi Jo Lander	Jill Kock	Jordan Johnson
2 Amber Neubauer	9 Benjamin Bejblik	Christopher McCall	Daniel Lemmer	Michael Marzinske
Callie Waldhauser	Rylee Casalenda	Kathryn Waldhauser	22 Jordan Fox	29 John Franz
Pat Weber	Rebekah Johnson	Pearl Wegwerth	Darlene Lucas	Marion Franzmeier
3 Joyce Boche	Wyatt Koker	17 Gregory Bethke	Emma Ohm	Sean Grasz
Brad Fuoss	Geoffrey Seiger	17 Rachelle Danner	23 Joshua Gorsky	Debra Hunter
Michelle Wirth	10 Jeremy Burkhart	David Lemmer	Tyler Swiderski	Mike Koker
4 James Boyer	11 Meghan Paul	Ryan Schroeder	Callum Tess	Alexander Yoder
Meagan Gustafson	12 Dave Rupprecht	Kaleb Wiplinger	Evan Wilson	30 Jonathan Huebner
Ky Heak	Andrew Voigt	18 Jon Otterstatter	24 Nicholas Kapanke	Tye Lander
5 Meredith Carlson	Katherine Voigt	Alexis Simonette	Todd Olson	Kdee Lemmer
Donna Harley	Jonathan Wandersee	19 Seth Beebe	24 Trent Wieden	Allyse Schletty
Hunter Johnston	13 Lorelai Beebe	Olivia Footh	26 Steven Boche	Jan Tako
Keith Neubauer	Drew Davis	Darrell Isebrand	Lydia Burgess	
Diane Wenker	Michael Frederick		Matthew Fetzer	

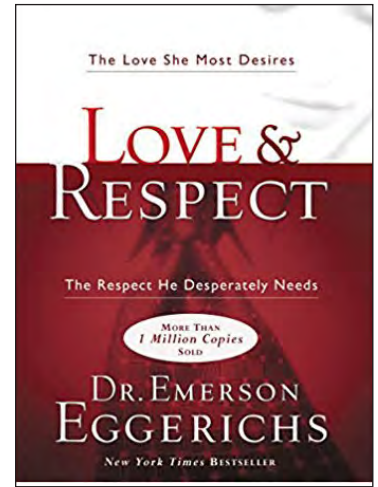
“Love and Respect”

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

REVIEWED BY ZAC PUDLO AND HEIDI VOIGT | CHRISTIAN

“All you need is love!” The Beatles suggestion isn’t the answer to having a great marriage. Even though culture agrees with The Beatles’ sentiment, love isn’t all you need. Why not? Shockingly, when husbands were polled, a majority of them described how they would rather be respected than loved by their wives. Conversely, a majority of wives polled confessed they would rather be loved than respected by their husbands. *Love and Respect* uses Biblical principles to propose a model for husbands and wives that involves both love and respect.

The book does a great job of giving real examples of people who used the Love and Respect model to change the course of their marriage. Even though the book can get slightly repetitive at times, it is still a great read for husbands and wives of all ages.



Food Drive



During the month of March, our congregation is joining people of good will from across the state to help alleviate hunger. Minnesota FoodShare’s March Campaign is the largest food drive in the state, and congregations like ours are at the heart of the campaign. 100% of your contribution will go towards hunger relief.

Why is it so important?

One in 10 Minnesota families experiences food insecurity.

This effort raises more than half the food distributed by 300 food shelves in the state.

The Neighbors food shelf serves more than 500 families each month.

An average of 60,000 pounds of food is distributed through the food shelf every month.

Our Crown of Life goal is to reach 1,000 pounds/dollars.

JUST FOR FUN

BRAIN BATS

DOG
THE

poFISHnd

ANSWERS TO FEBRUARY QUTOE FALL: I rejoice with those who said to me let us go to the house of the Lord

W	T	E	A	P	O	N	I	P	T	M	U	S	T	A
A	H	E	B	A	U	H	I	H	H	L	E	H	I	H
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T	H		B	A	E		H	S	H					
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	D			R			G	S						
				Y										



CROWN OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
 West St. Paul Campus – 115 Crusader Ave W, West St. Paul MN 55118
 Eagan Campus – 4150 Pilot Knob Rd, Eagan MN 55122