



Weekly Newsletter

FEBRUARY 13, 2025



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A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

Luke 6:20 ceb

20 *Jesus raised his eyes to his disciples and said:
"Happy are you who are poor,
because God's kingdom is yours.*

Greetings, siblings in Christ!

We are a few weeks away from the start of the Lenten season, which begins with Ash Wednesday on March 5th. I wanted to make you all aware that I will be at the church that morning for anyone who might desire ashes in the morning. We will also have a service at 6:30p that evening, for those who want a more full worship experience.

Then, the following Sunday morning, March 9th, we will begin our Lenten study of *The Final Days* by Matt Rawle. This will be an exploration of what the Jewish people might have been looking for in a Messiah, and what each of the gospel writers found in their personal experience of Jesus. I hope you will join us as we dig into Lent, and prepare ourselves for the joy of Easter Resurrection.

If you know someone in your life who might be interested or challenged by our current series, invite them to come. This Sunday we'll look at the challenging topic of the perspectives we come from, and how they shade our world outlook to our favor. It will be another challenging topic for all of us.

Yours In Christ

PASTOR GLEN

PRAYER CONCERNS

Marleen Anderson; Bev Mesey; Doug (Jeremy Henson); Pat Delf & Alta Kopetzky (Marcia Kennon); Margo Petracek; Dianne Wallace; Patrick Akuius (Julie Puckett); Trevor & Jon Baetz (Mary Taylor); Allison Vehlewald (Margo Petracek); Debbie Simms & family (Connie Kroenung); Janice Pauken & Peter Schüren (Debbie Lund); inExcelsis Mobile Shower program for the homeless; people looking for work or starting a new job; federal civil servants; and immigrants, refugees, those who need help with resettlement and those helping with those efforts.



Welcome To Our
NEW MEMBERS



**DONNA
LAVOIE
&
TRACEY
RICHMOND**

**ERNEST
"ERNIE"
FRANCE**



**KAREN
MANION
&
JENNIE
DENT**



UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

WINTER GATHERING

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15TH

**9:30 AM
GATHER &
FELLOWSHIP
BRUNCH (\$10)
SERVED AT 10:00 AM**

Program, pledge service,
and business meeting
following brunch

**GUEST SPEAKER
SEVERIN PELEKARA**



IN EXCELSIS

In Excelsis is a grassroots charitable organization serving unhoused individuals, families, and veterans in the greater St. Louis area.



Ingathering: We will be collecting donations of cash, bus passes, women's underwear (large), men's boxers (medium and larger), deodorant, eco-friendly shampoo and conditioner, body wash, bath towels (regular size), and washcloths.



NEW STUDY

The Seekers

The Seekers Sunday School class (meets in the classroom due east of the Sanctuary) will start a new study this Sunday of C. S. Lewis's classic text, *The Screwtape Letters*. Originally published in 1942, this novel is a series of letters from Screwtape, an underling of the Devil, to his nephew, Wormwood, instructing him in ways to lead humans away from God. Reading this satire is in fact instruction in the deliberate practice of the Christian faith.

If you are interested, please join us. Books are available online or at the Webster Groves Public Library.

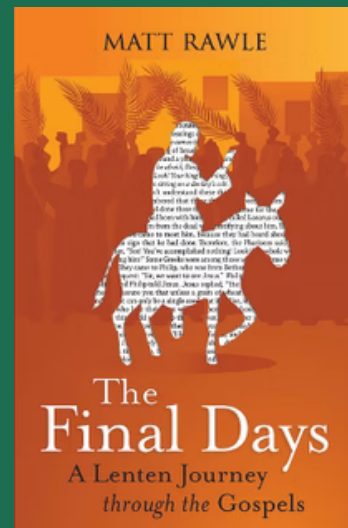
We will take a break from *Screwtape* to join the Lenten study in Fellowship Hall, March 9 – April 13.

COMING SOON

Lenten Study

“THE FINAL DAYS”

By Matt Rawle





More From The Safety Committee

As we get closer to spring(thankfully), flu season is doing something a bit unusual. Normally, flu peaks earlier in the winter and then declines. This year, however, we are having a second peak right now, and we're seeing a rise in infections and hospitalizations. The CDC estimates there have been about 13,000 deaths from influenza this season.

There are a number of steps we can take to decrease the impact of this increase in flu cases. It's not too late to get a flu shot if you haven't already done so. No need for a second vaccination if you have already gotten one. Stay at home if you have symptoms that you could pass onto others. Wash your hands with soap and water frequently during the day, especially after you get home from trips outside home. Wear a mask if you want added protection. Hydrate well. Adequate fluids can help with symptoms.

Let's help decrease the spread of flu and other viral illnesses by doing what we can to protect each other.

The Fairview doors are to be used as an emergency exit only, not for entering or normal exiting. Recently, the doors were found to be unlatched. Please do not use these doors for ANYTHING other than an emergency exit. The doors do not latch correctly and have to be pushed from the outside in order to shut correctly.

This is a safety issue. If these doors are open, even though this exit has camera monitors, unwanted "guests" could gain entry. Also, proximity to the nursery has to be considered.

**Thanks,
Tom Pacatte, Safety Committee**



The **MOUNTAIN SERVICE**

For the whole month of February, in honor of Black History Month, we'll be looking at *The Color of Compromise* by Jemar Tisby, which tells "the truth about the American church's complicity in racism." We will be looking at church history in the United States as it relates to racism, injustice, and the fight for liberation.

SCHEDULE *February*

Thursday, February 13, 2025

Small group @ 7:30pm - Space Room

Thursday, February 20, 2025

Small group @ 7:30pm - Space Room

Thursday, February 27, 2025

Small group @ 7:30pm - Space Room

Loud Should Be Louding

Do you like to read? There is a list of books recommended by United Women In Faith that promote missions, leadership, etc. This reading program helps keep you informed in many areas.

"The Girl With the Louding Voice" by Abi Daré, is a good read. This novel describes a 14 year old girl in Nigeria who longs to get an education so she can find her "Louding Voice" and speak up for herself. While she is working as a maid, several people help her. You can get the book at your local library. It qualifies in the Missions category.

More about this reading program at the UW IN Faith February brunch.

Carol Gilker
Reading Coordinator



HOW ABOUT JOINING A VOLUNTEER-IN-MISSION WORK TEAM FORMING FOR MAY?



Midwest Mission near Springfield, IL has become our favorite place to serve others, and we are beginning to recruit another group for a work week with space for 8-9 people in the dorm.

The dates are Monday, May 26th – Friday, May 30th 2025. Some people from last year's team are eager to return, but there are plenty of spaces open to join. The lodging is very spacious and comfortable; the work shifts have morning and afternoon breaks as well as a long lunch break, and the day is over between 3:30 and 4:00 PM. We always meet plenty of friendly people and enjoy relaxing evenings with our teammates. It is definitely a break from routine and quite enriching. Talk to some of us who have participated in the past if you are thinking about this new experience. (Lettie Morse, Katie Renkins, JoAnn Claywell, Alison McCurley, Linda Guth Stangl, Ellen Hendrickson, Jan McCurley, Gordon Ballam, Joan Ballam, Roger McCurley, Dan Pike, Cindy Andrews, Sandy Reesor, or Mary Taylor).



***DATES: DEPART ON MEMORIAL DAY MONDAY AFTERNOON,
MAY 26—RETURN FRI. AFTER LUNCH, MAY 30**

*What is Midwest Mission? It is a United Methodist-affiliated disaster relief facility providing disaster relief kits, school desks, educational & medical supplies, etc., locally, nationally, and internationally.

* What work will we do? There is something for every ability—packing kits, sewing school bags, building & refinishing school desks, repairing bicycles and sewing machines, organizing materials, unloading items, filling shipping containers, etc. (sit-down jobs are always available).

*Where do we stay? The dormitory has multiple 2-4 person bedrooms (we use only lower bunks, 2 to a room) as well as a spacious living room/dining area and a large, well-equipped kitchen.

*Cost: will be determined based on number of people going, but it will be minimal for dormitory lodging and supplies, plus food & gas expenses. Financial aid can be available if needed.

If you are interested in joining the team, call Jan McCurley at 314-781-3969 (h) text or call 314- 378-5504(c) or email janis.mccurley@gmail.com, no later than March 1.



Rock and Roll Bingo

Rock & Roll Bingo

Sunday, March 16, 2:00-4:00
doors open at 1:30

Lutheran Church of Webster Gardens
8749 Watson Rd., 63119

\$25/person, \$200/table of 8

- Included: 10 rounds of BINGO, popcorn, pretzels, soft drinks, and great prizes!
- Guests welcome to bring their own table snacks. **No alcohol is allowed on the premises.**

More Fun - Costume Contest!

Dress as your favorite music era, genre, artist or band and win a prize! (optional)

Reserve Your Spot Today!

Go to www.shepherdscenter-wk.org

Call 314-395-0988

Or scan the QR code



**BINGO
WITH MUSIC
INSTEAD OF
NUMBERS!**

**ALL ERAS
ALL GENRES
ALL AGES**



SHEPHERD'S CENTER FUNDRAISER

*inspiring older adults
through enrichment,
volunteerism &
community connection*