

# Augsburg Church

# February 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> (B) JoAnn Givins (B) Leland Schaal	<b>4</b> (B) Sandra Kleinik	<b>5</b> (B) Errol Rhodes	<b>6</b> (B) Paula Gephart
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> (B) Daniel Summann (B) Evelyn Meseke	<b>9</b> (B) Mackenzie Smith	<b>10</b> (B) Ed Atwood (B) Melody Smith	<b>11</b> (B) Lucy Newcomb (B) Ryan Summann	<b>12</b> (B) Ryan Schmollinger	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> (B) Ashli Fenton (B) Wesley Rogers	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> (B) Brad Grandt	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> (B) Klaire Smith
<b>21</b> (B) Makenna Dothager (B) Makenna Kleinik	<b>22</b> (B) Jamie Tischhauser	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> (B) Christopher Cole (B) Harlan Schukar	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> (B) John Moyer						

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 4:00 pm Bulletin Deadline	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> 9:00 am Bible Class & Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 4:00 pm Bulletin Deadline	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> 9:00 am Bible Class & Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 4:00 pm Bulletin Deadline	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> 9:00 am Bible Class & Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 4:00 pm Bulletin Deadline	<b>25</b> 7:00 pm Elders Meeting	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> 9:00 am Bible Class & Sunday School 10:00 am Worship						

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February, 2021

*The disciples of John and of the Pharisees were fasting. Then they came and said to Him, "Why do the disciples of John and of the Pharisees fast, but Your disciples do not fast?" And Jesus said to them, "Can the friends of the bridegroom fast while the bridegroom is with them? As long as they have the bridegroom with them they cannot fast. But the days will come when the bridegroom will be taken away from them, and then they will fast in those days." – Mark 2:18-20*

Repentance, Prayer, and...Fasting?

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

February is a hard month. More cold. Snow and/or ice. Still wearing face masks and staying away from people. It's a good thing it's the shortest month. For many, Valentine's Day is the highlight of the month, though it can be a painful reminder for some of love gone awry, or loved ones lost. Yes, February can be a bleak time.

Then, coming off the grand celebrations of Christmas and Epiphany, which concludes with the Transfiguration of Our Lord (Feb. 14<sup>th</sup>), the Christian church take a bit of a turn. For Lent begins on Ash Wednesday (Feb. 17<sup>th</sup>). Turning toward the cross, Lent marks the beginning of the second portion of the church year, the time of Easter. Lent, like Advent, is a penitential season which prepares us to celebrate rightly what follows. The focus goes from the work of the Father in sending, incarnating, and revealing His Son in the time of Christmas to the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus in this portion of the church year.

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, and continues for 40 days (not counting the Sundays). The 40 days are a reminder of the 40 years that the Israelites wandered in the wilderness (reminding us of our sinfulness) and of the 40 days that Jesus Himself fasted and was tempted in the wilderness by Satan (reminding us of what our Lord has accomplished for our redemption).

We relive this experience, in a way, through the things that we do together as a church during Lent. Our congregation will meet on Wednesday evenings for additional services which are another opportunity to grow in our understanding of the great things our Lord has done for us in His Son.

We also relive these experiences of our Lord and our ancestors in the faith through some of the things we do as a congregation and as individual Christians during Lent. You might notice

during Lent that the word “Alleluia” will disappear from the liturgy in our services until Easter. It is not that in our Lenten worship we no longer “praise the Lord,” rather we are muted or restrained in our worship in anticipation of the joy of Christ’s resurrection from the dead at Easter!

Some Christians have also found great benefit in muting certain things in their own lives as part of their Lenten preparations for Easter. You may have done this yourself, or perhaps you know another Christian who has given something up for Lent. This practice is called fasting. Fasting during Lent is a self-imposed act of sacrifice. Its purpose is not to improve one’s standing with God, rather it is a means of reducing something in our lives so that we may spend more time in prayer and learn to rely upon God rather than ourselves for all good things. Fasting is completely voluntary, and most often it involves eating much less than normal, or avoiding a certain food (i.e. chocolate (I’m going to hear about that)) or a certain food group (i.e. red meat or alcohol), it may be giving up some activity (i.e. Facebook, Twitter, or other social media, or TV), and adding more frequent attendance at the services of the church, such as our Wednesday evening services.

Though certainly not required, Christians who fast during Lent do so for the same reason congregations “fast” from using the word “Alleluia” and singing the “Gloria in Excelsis” during Lent – it is a means toward appreciating the good gifts of God more fully when we together celebrate the festival of the resurrection of His Son, Jesus Christ, at Easter. The words of our Lord from St. Mark above teach us something very important about such fasting. Focusing upon the fast itself misses the point – the fast is a preparation for something better to come – in other words, Christians fast in preparation for the feast!

God be with us and bless us as we together prepare for our Lord’s Passion this Lent and always. To Christ alone be all the glory, forever and ever, amen.

Your servant in Christ,  
Pastor Landskroener

Our Lenten midweek services will consider our Lord’s Words from the Cross.

February 17 - Ash Wednesday - *The Pardoning Word* - Luke 23:34  
February 24 - Lent 1 midweek - *The Promising Word* - Luke 23:43  
March 3 - Lent 2 midweek - *The Compassionate Word* - John 19:26-27  
March 10 - Lent 3 midweek - *The Faithful Word* - Matthew 27:46  
March 17 - Lent 4 midweek - *The Suffering Word* - John 19:28  
March 24 - Lent 5 midweek - *The Dying Word* - Luke 23:46  
April 1 - Maundy Thursday - *The Remembering Word* - 1 Corinthians 11:23-26  
April 2 - Good Friday - *The Fulfilled Word* - John 19:30  
April 4 - Easter - *The Vindicated Word* - Luke 24:1-12

God bless you on your Lenten journey and bring you to a joyous Easter celebration.

**The next SCRIP gift card order** benefitting St. Peter's Lutheran School will be placed in February. Orders are due no later than Monday, February 8. Gift cards should be in no later than the 15th. New order forms are available in the church narthex. Please consider using SCRIP for birthday, anniversary, or just for everyday needs. If you have any questions, please contact Larry Urban at 618-267-3235 or email [urbansix@frontiernet.net](mailto:urbansix@frontiernet.net).

**YOUR DAILY LUTHERAN BIBLE CLASS...** Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. This week's teachings include: The Word "Kingdom" in the Bible, Old Testament Patriarch Jacob, Saul Becomes King, The Day of Atonement and more. You can listen on-demand at [issuesetc.org](http://issuesetc.org), the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.

**Welcome to Klaire & Mackenzie Smith.** On January 17, they joined God's family through Holy Baptism.

**The St. Paul (Blue Point) Men's Club** annual sausage and pancake supper is set for Sunday, January 31. It will be a drive-through event with pancake & sausage meals, packaged rope, cooked rope, and bulk ground sausage available. Service begins at 4:00 pm. The church is located 4 miles north and 2 miles east of Altamont.

**St. Peter Annual Sausage Supper** will not be held this year due to Covid. **HOWEVER**, we will be selling sausage & ribs. To Order – please call one of the following: Tim Brauer (618-267-6228) John Lotz (618-553-5585) St. Peter's Lutheran Church 349-8321 (after 12 pm) Orders will be taken until January 31. Order pick up date and exact price has not been set yet. You will be notified when sausage is ready at a later date.

**Christ Our Rock Lutheran high School.** Courier in available for viewing in the narthex.

**Lighthouse Pregnancy Center** is hosting their 2021 Annual Fundraising Banquet March 25<sup>th</sup>. See Flyer in Narthex for details.

**For a Pastoral visit, please contact Pastor Landskroener**

**Church Closings Update** – Church closings will be announced on the Augsburg Facebook page. Closings will also be announced on local radio stations. Scott will send Church closing via text, if you would like that also. If you would like a phone call, please contact Pastor or an Elder with the number they can contact you with.

**Parish Hall reservations** – If you would like to plan an event or meeting to use our Parish Hall for any reason, this also includes Church activities. You will need to contact Scott or Karen Torbeck. If not asked, we don't know. Use of the Parish Hall will be determined by the first reservation made.

**Augsburg Immanuel Lutheran Church**  
**Quarterly Voters Meeting**  
**January 10, 2021**

Chairman Mo Schukar called the meeting to order and led all present in prayer.

Minutes from the October 11, 2020 voters meeting were printed in the church newsletter. There was no further discussion on these minutes. A motion was made to accept the minutes as posted, seconded, and approved.

Members:

Voting members: None  
Communicant members: None  
Baptisms: None  
Transfers:  
    Transfer out: None  
    Transfer in: None  
    Releases: None

Treasurer's Report:

The quarterly and 2020 annual reports were presented. Copies of these reports will be included with the church newsletter. A motion was made to accept the reports as presented, seconded, and approved.

Elders' Report:

Elders have been meeting with the pastor on a regular basis.

Pastor's Report:

Pastor continues to perform his duties to the church, including meetings, visitations, funerals, Baptisms, etc. A copy of the pastor's full report is included with these minutes.

Trustees' Report:

Minor repairs have been completed on the church property as required.

Sunday school:

Sunday school is going well, but more students and teachers are always welcome. There are no LYF activities at this time. Sixteen children participated in the Christmas program this year. All went well. Thank you to all that helped make the program a success.

Bible Class:

Bible class is meeting regularly. A \$500.00 donation from the Bible class collection was made to the St. Louis Seminary to aid students attending. Please feel free to come and join in the learning.

Finance Man: No report.

Sexton:

The cemetery flagpole has been replaced. The new veterans' memorial from the American Legion will be erected on the site as soon as the ground settles and it is fit to do so.

Old Business:

Coronavirus is still with us, but we continue to meet and worship while practicing social distancing.

New Business:

Due to pandemic, the synod has asked for congregational approval to postpone the national synodical convention until 2023. This will allow district conventions to catch up on their duties delayed by the pandemic. A motion was made to allow for the postponement, seconded, and approved.

Special Collections:

The following special collections were submitted for the first quarter:

- Ash Wednesday – Fort Wayne Seminary
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Lenten – Bethesda
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Lenten – St. Louis Seminary
- 4<sup>th</sup> Lenten – Lighthouse Pregnancy Center
- 5<sup>th</sup> Lenten – Lutheran School for the Deaf, Jacksonville
- 6<sup>th</sup> Lenten – District Deaf Ministry
- Maundy Thursday – Christ Our Rock Lutheran High School

A motion was made to accept the special collections, seconded, and approved.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting, seconded, and approved. The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Submitted by Steven R. Hickerson

## Bible Word Search: Twenty Miracles of Jesus

To solve this fun and educational word search puzzle, you'll need the clues below. Read each Bible passage that tells about one of the miracles Jesus performed. Then finish each sentence. The number in ( ) tells how many letters are in each word. Then find the words you supplied in the word search. Words may appear in any direction.



1. John 2:1-11 Jesus turned (5) \_\_\_\_\_ into (4) \_\_\_\_\_.
2. John 4: 46-54 Jesus healed the royal official's (3) \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Luke 4:33-37 Jesus healed a man possessed by a (5) \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Matthew 8:14-15 Jesus healed the mother-in-law of (5) \_\_\_\_\_.

Clues are continued on the next page.





5. Luke 5:3-10 He caused Peter, James and (4) \_\_\_\_\_ to catch a large number of (4) \_\_\_\_\_
6. Matthew 8: 1-3 Jesus healed a (5) \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Matthew 8:5-13 He healed a centurion's (7) \_\_\_\_\_.
8. Matthew 9: 1-8 Jesus healed a (9) \_\_\_\_\_ man.
9. Mark 3:1-6 Jesus healed a man with a (9) \_\_\_\_\_ hand.
10. Luke 7:11-17 Jesus raised the son of a (5) \_\_\_\_\_ .
11. Mark 4:35-41 Jesus made the (4) \_\_\_\_\_ and (5) \_\_\_\_\_ obey him.
12. Mark 5:1-13 Jesus healed a man with an (6)\_\_\_\_\_ (6)\_\_\_\_\_ .
13. Matthew 9:20-22 Jesus healed a (5) \_\_\_\_\_ who had been (8) \_\_\_\_\_ for (6) \_\_\_\_\_ years.
14. Matthew 9:27-31 He healed two (5)\_\_\_\_\_ men.
15. Matthew 14:16-21 Jesus fed five (8)\_\_\_\_\_ men and their families with (4) \_\_\_\_\_ loaves and (3) \_\_\_\_\_ fish.
16. Matthew 14:22-33 Jesus went out to his disciples, (7) \_\_\_\_\_ on the lake.
17. Matthew 15:21-28 Jesus healed a woman's (8)\_\_\_\_\_ who was demon-possessed.
18. John 11:1-44 Jesus raised (7)\_\_\_\_\_ from the dead.
19. Mark 10:46-52 Jesus healed a blind (6) \_\_\_\_\_ named (10)\_\_\_\_\_.
20. Luke 22:45-54 Jesus restored the severed (3)\_\_\_\_\_ of the servant of the high (6) \_\_\_\_\_.

