

the sower

i will not fail you or forsake you

reflections. . . .



Back in the good old days – when we had our very own building – we’d eat meals in one room and worship in another! But since the middle of January, when we moved into a studio apartment, all that changed. Nowadays, everything we do is done in one room. And it requires creativity to make it work. Take, for instance, Ash Wednesday. . .

In the past, the night began with supper – hosted by the women of the church – served in the “fellowship hall” from 5:45 till 6:45. Then, at 7:00, we’d adjourn to the “worship area.” We’ll still do that, but like we used to do, the “fellowship hall” will become the “worship area!” This year, we’ll just continue sitting “at table!” Just like Jesus and the disciples did in the night in which he was betrayed! When he took bread! When he took the cup! When he knelt and washed their feet! And rather than changing everything back to the “usual” Sunday morning arrangement, throughout the season of Lent, we’ll continue sitting at the tables.

Selling the building wasn’t, merely, a way to get out of the corner six-and-a-half decades of ministry had backed us into. It’s, even more, a way to become, once again, the people god made us! “Exploring together strange new worlds! Seek out new life and new civilizations! Boldly going where no one has gone before!” It all begins. . . HERE! TODAY!

i crossing the river . . . TOGETHER !

Bob





After the death of Moses the servant of the LORD, the LORD spoke to Joshua son of Nun, Moses' assistant, saying, 'My servant Moses is dead. Now proceed to cross the Jordan, you and all this people, into the land that I am giving to them, to the Israelites. Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given to you, as I promised to Moses. From the wilderness and the Lebanon as far as the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, to the Great Sea in the west shall be your territory. No one shall be able to stand against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will not fail you or forsake you. Be strong and courageous; for you shall put this people in possession of the land that I swore to their ancestors to give them. Only be strong and very courageous, being careful to act in accordance with all the law that my servant Moses commanded you; do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, so that you may be successful wherever you go. This book of the law shall not depart out of your mouth; you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to act in accordance with all that is written in it. For then you shall make your way prosperous, and then you shall be successful. I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.'

Joshua 1. 1-9



O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Yes! Yes! This is most certainly true!



THE SPRING ASSEMBLY of the Conference Out West of the NT-NL Synod, will be held Saturday afternoon, March 02nd, at Grace Lutheran Church, 1202 S Pioneer Dr, in Abilene. The meeting will be called to order at 1:00 and should adjourn by 3:00! The Rev Irma Bañales, Director for Evangelical Mission, is guest speaker. Also, on the agenda is a discussion of the synod's upcoming WELCA retreat at Butman Methodist Church Camp in Merkel, in mid-October. And there'll be plenty of coffee and cookies! Any questions – or if you wanna tag along – talk with pastorBob – office – 432.694-1373 + cell – 432.349-7407 + home – 432.689-9274 + or email – bbarndt@juno.com

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THE SUNDAY amCLASS for adults meets from 9:15-10:15 in one of the rooms off the south hallway, pastorBob teaching. The topic under discussion continues to be: "What Does This



Mean?" The "What" referring to our present and the future to which god is calling us!

Any questions, talk with pastorBob – office – 432.694-1373 + cell – 432.349-7407 + home – 432.689-9274 + or email – bbarndt@juno.com

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THE WEDNESDAY pmSTUDY is being "giving up" for Lent. We'll restart after the second Sunday of Easter, on May Day! Until then, fair winds and following seas, happy trails, and see y'all, then!



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ASH WEDNESDAY is March 06th! It's late, this year! (FYI, the latest Ash Wednesday occurs is March 10th!) The women of the church are hosting the supper, which is served from 5:45-6:45. Worship follows at 7:00. The gospel for the evening: [Matthew 6. 1-6](#),



[16-21](#)... Just in case you'd like to take a look beforehand!

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THE BISHOP'S COMING! THE BISHOP'S COMING!



The Rev Dr Erik Gronberg, bishop of Northern Texas – Northern Louisiana Synod – will be here

Saturday and Sunday, March 09th and 10th! He wanted to be with us on the Sunday we “transitioned” to our new worship space. But his schedule wouldn't allow it. This is the soonest he could get here! Saturday night, we – long with Christ's Lutheran Church, Odessa – will get together with him for a meal and conversation! Things will get started at 5:00pm. The focus of the discussion will be the future of the ELCA in the Permian Basin! It'll be at Margaret Cowden Clubhouse at The Village @ Manor Park, 2208 N Loop 250 West. **If you plan on being there, please let us know so we have a ballpark figure for dinner!** We should be “on our way rejoicing by 8:00!

Then, Sunday morning, Bishop Gronberg will preside at worship here at Midland Lutheran! (That means preach and celebrate the Supper!)

If you have any questions, would like to let us know if you're coming, need a ride, or need directions, talk with pastor Bob – office – 432.694-1373 + cell – 432.349-7407 + home – 432.689-9274 + or email – bbarndt@juno.com

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AND DON'T FORGET to spring ahead



an hour before you go to bed, Saturday, March 9th! If you do (forget, that is), you just might miss seeing the Bishop on Sunday morning! Or he'd miss seeing you!

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THE MARCH MEETING of the women of the ELCA will be the 2nd Wednesday morning of the month! That's the 13th! In the patioRoom, off the north hallway! 9:30-11:00 (or so)!



No reservations are required! Just come on down and join in! Any questions, talk with Gretchen Shults, the study leader, @ 432.413-4354 or Donna Roberts, president of the organization, @ 817.223-3327

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THE FIRST OF FIVE



midweek get-togethers, this Lent, will be Wednesday evening, March 13th! As in the past, supper is served from 5:45-6:45 and the

devotion and Holden Evening Prayer follow at 7:00. The theme, this year: Reflections on a Logo! We'll think about its meaning – and maturing – as we've come to this point in our journey! Again, any questions? You know what to do!

And by the way, it'll be helpful to read through the passage from Joshua printed on the inside front cover of this newsletter before before each get-together and, then, let it percolate through the week! It's a

big part of this season and something we don't run into on Sunday mornings!

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THE CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP

meets in the lobby of the church building, the second Thursday afternoon of each month (March 14th), from 2-3:30 (+/-)! Susan Frederickson, Caregiver Program Specialist for the Area Agency on Aging for the Permian Basin, facilitates the conversation. No need to call ahead. Just come on down! But if you'd like to talk with Susan beforehand, her number at the agency is **432.563-1061!**



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THE CONGREGATION COUNCIL



meets right after worship, the 3rd Sunday of each month, March 21st! Anyone and everyone's welcome to sit in and see what's happening!

Questions – member or not – call **432.694-1373**, call or text **432.349-7407**, or drop a line to bbarndt@juno.com! And council members. . . if you can't make it, please do the same! And please don't hesitate to talk with any council member about any questions or concerns you might have. Their names and phone numbers are on the leadership page, inside the back cover of the newsletter!

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THE NEXT FAITH TALK is Saturday, April 06th @ Christ's Lutheran Church,



2002 N Lincoln Ave, Odessa! Conversation begins @ 10:00am, breaks for lunch around noon – which, by the way, is included! – and finishes up by 2:00pm. The topic under discussion: The Seven Marks of the Church! This is the last session in this go-round! Any questions or need a ride, talk with the pastor – call the church office @ **432.694-1373** – or call / text pastor Bob @ **432.349-7407!**

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LOOKING AHEAD... April's not only the cruelest month, à la TS Eliot. It's, also, the busiest! FYI. . .

Sunday of the Passion – April 14th
Maundy Thursday – April 18th
Good Friday – April 19th
Easter – April 21st
Synod Assembly – April 26th-27th

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ABOUT THAT SYNOD ASSEMBLY...

as yet, we don't have a voting member! Soooooo, if you feel "called" or "chosen" to fill the bill, talk with the pastor – A.S.A.P. – and we'll get you registered! In fact, once again, Lonnie's the registrar! You can talk to him (or the pastor), as well, if you're thinking about going, but would like more information before you commit to it!

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FAMILY PROMISE, here in Midland, celebrated it's 8th anniversary on Valentine's Day! Since then, we've served

92 families! 115 adults! 189 children!
Thanks for taking being there!

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SOME OF YOU may remember Earlene Lagow! She served West Texas for decades, representing Thrivent Financial for Lutherans! She was, also, an organist at Christ's Lutheran in Odessa! If you hadn't heard,



Earlene died, February 16th. The service was February 20th. Please keep her family and friends in your thoughts and prayers. And if you'd like to take a look at her obituary or share condolences, click here:

[obituary](#)

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For the week-to-week details, be sure to keep an eye on social ministry. . .

www.MidlandLutheranChurch.org

- our webpage -

& our Facebook pages

[@GospelCrossWords](#)

- devotion posts -

[@MidlandLutheranChurch](#)

- us & our ministry -

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PLEASE KEEP THESE PEOPLE in your thoughts, words, & DEEDS. . .

Kaylee Academia; Adrian; Aunt Betty; Corbin; Liz & Tom Daneker; Heather Dellinger; Donovan; Marilyn Douglas; Mary & Steve Douglas; Shirley Dye; Emily; Forest; Anneliese Hyde; Wanda Howell; Linda Jamison; Wayne Johnson; Marti Jones; Karen; Diane Keys; Kim & Sunny; Kirstie; Kristi & new

daughter; Kurt; **family & friends of Earlene Lagow**; Toni Jean Lanier; Leanne; Eric Lee; Lisa; Liz, Kurt, & Brian; Louie; Cassie Martin; Ruth Mendenhall; Doris Muehlbrad; Cindy Nelson; Shirley Nelson; Jennifer & Kyle Norman; Lael & Larry Pitts; Reagan; Joice Richter; Geneva Russell; Ruth; Dean Saenger; Jody Smith; Johnnie Snider; Doug Speer; Luther Steele; Judy Swenson; Teresa; Tim; Tricia; Betty Tuminaro

For telephone prayer chain requests - or if you'd like to be a link on the chain - please call Barbara Porsch -

683-4474 * bporsch@sbcglobal.net

or Ginny Behnken -

262-3374 *

fred_behnken@suddenlink.net

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the BIRTHDAYS

jay gordon	03/04	cody nelson	03/19
jonathan yee	03/11	daryl saenger	03/21
kelly spencer	03/12	scott johnson	03/23
lyle eberly	03/15	james nelson	03/24
donna roberts	03/16	jack bowie	03/26
larry shults	03/16	mike rowell	03/27
bob boomer	03/17	curtis brown	03/31

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if we've - unintentionally - omitted a birthday or anniversary, please let us know we'll be sure to get you NEXT YEAR

the LEADERSHIP of the CONGREGATION

president	-----	vice president
secretary	-----	fred behnken (432.262-3374)
council representatives		

noma saenger (432.599-5979)
 b.j. shraeder (724.584-3633)
 ken spencer (432.853-6683)
 todd wise (661.333-3725)
 jonathan yee (432.352-9387)

nominating team		delegate(s)
organist	chad hauris	bob barndt pastor

the WORSHIP MINISTERS

	reader	assisting minister	tellers
mar 03 rd	fred behnken	erika weber	del bowie & lonnie yee
mar 10 th	deidre barnes	marylin boomer	lonnie yee &
mar 17 th	lisa starling	kay sewell	alan sewell &
mar 24 th	sherice barndt	gretchen shults	fred behnken & deidra barnes
mar 31 st	erika weber	fred behnken	del bowie & lonnie yee
altar guild	lonnie yee		cantor



“restore in us, o god,
 the splendor
 of your love”

carl p daw, jr, b. 1944, elw # 328



the PROPERs for march

the TRANSFIGURATION of OUR LORD, march 03

the PRAYER of the DAY: Holy God, mighty and immortal, you are beyond our knowing, yet we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. Transform us into the likeness of your Son, who renewed our humanity so that we may share in his divinity, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

the READING: Exodus 34:29-35 + Psalm 99 + 2nd Corinthians 3:12-4:2 + Luke 9:28-43a

the FIRST SUNDAY in LENT, march 10

the PRAYER of the DAY: O Lord God, you led your people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide us now, so that, following your Son, we may walk safely through the wilderness of this world toward the life you alone can give, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

the READING: Deuteronomy 26:1-11 + Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16 + Romans 10:8b-13 + Luke 4:1-13

the SECOND SUNDAY in LENT, march 17

the PRAYER of the DAY: God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world. Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

the READING: Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18 + Psalm 27 + Philippians 3:17-4:1 + Luke 13:31-35

the THIRD SUNDAY in LENT, march 24

the PRAYER of the DAY: Eternal God, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your word and obey it, and bring your saving love to fruition in our lives, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.


the READING: Isaiah 55:1-9 + Psalm 63:1-8 + 1st Corinthians 10:1-13 + Luke 13:1-9

the FOURTH SUNDAY in LENT, march 31

the PRAYER of the DAY: God of compassion, you welcome the wayward, and you embrace us all with your mercy. By our baptism clothe us with garments of your grace, and feed us at the table of your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

the READINGS: Joshua 5:9-12 + Psalm 32 + 2nd Corinthians 5:16-21 + Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

marzo 2019

sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday			
	Verbum Domini Manet in Aeternum The Word of the Lord Endures Forever					1	2		
 <p>9:15am - learning 10:30am - worship 4:00pm - bsa 270</p>	3	4	5	 <p>5:45pm - supper 7:00pm - ash wednesday worship</p>	6	7	8	9	 <p>1:00pm - springAssembly 5:00pm - tableTalk w/ bishop gronberg</p>
<p>9:15am - learning 10:30am - worship bishop gronberg presiding 4:00pm - bsa 270</p>	10	11	12	13	 <p>2:00pm - supportGroup 7:00pm - clusterConfab</p>	14	15	16	<p>misd spring break</p>
 <p>9:15am - learning 10:30am - worship 12:00pm - council 4:00pm - bsa 270</p>	17	18	19	20	<p>5:45pm - supper 7:00pm - devotion, etc.</p>	21	22	23	
 <p>9:15am - learning 10:30am - worship 4:00pm - bsa 270</p>	24	25	26	27	<p>5:45pm - supper 7:00pm - devotion, etc.</p>	28	29	30	
<p>9:15am - learning 10:30am - worship</p>	31	<p>unfurl our lives like springtime</p>					<p>carl p. daw, jr. b. 1955, elw # 328</p>		



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

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midland lutheran church

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bob barndt, pastor

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webpage: www.MidlandLutheranChurch.org

facebook: www.facebook.com/GospelCrossWords/

www.facebook.com/MidlandLutheranChurch/

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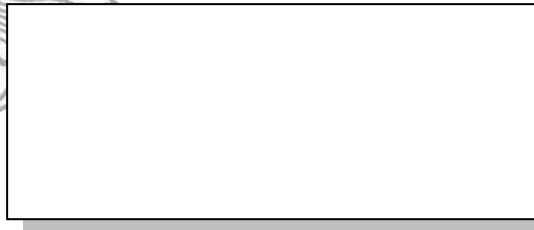
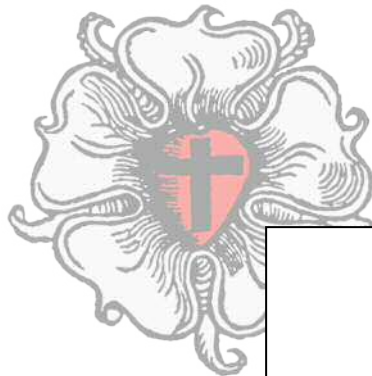
sunday morning schedule: **learning hour @ 9:15 * worship @ 10:30**

office hours: monday-thursday, 9am-noon & by appointment

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midland lutheran church

2705 w michigan av + midland, tx 79701-5840



march 2019