



THE MESSENGER

Galilee Lutheran Church

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FEBRUARY 2025

Greetings,

I almost can't believe that January 2025 is virtually past us and we are headed into February already. Nancy and I have been meeting to discuss and make plans for Galilee for this year. Here are a few of the things that we will be focusing on in 2025:

- Our Tornado Relief efforts will continue as long as there are needs that need to be helped with and we have the funds to meet those needs.
- I tried to gather the other churches in town together to have a special joint worship service in March to commemorate the 1st anniversary of the tornado; to honor the First Responders, to remember those who died and lift up the survivors but my efforts were futile. Peri and I will be working on something smaller that Galilee can do and we'll probably connect it to our Tornado Survivors Dinner in March. Stay tuned for how you can participate in this event.
- Ash Wednesday will be March 5th and we'll be doing a Fat Tuesday Pancake Dinner on that night before moving into the sanctuary for the Ash Wednesday service. That will be followed by the Wednesday night Soup and Sandwich dinners with an engaging learning and discussion time that follows
- We are hoping to have a Galilee Anniversary Luncheon following church one Sunday in May. As part of this lunch I'm hoping to put together a video using pictures of people and events from Galilee's history, including the construction of our building.
- Another way that we'll be honoring the people and events of our past is by highlighting them in our monthly newsletter in the section labeled "Did You Know"
- Our Constitution and By Laws are seriously outdated; and while neither of us relishes the thought of the daunting task of updating them, Nancy and I have agreed that we need to make it a priority this year.
- Sheila has worked diligently to get the WELCA Spring Conference meeting here at Galilee in April. We will be hosting women from churches throughout our conference and the theme for the day will be "Stronger Than The Storm." We'll be sharing with our sisters in Christ how Galilee has worked to respond to the needs of our community following the tornado.

As we move through this year, if there is anything that you'd like to see us do here at Galilee, please let Nancy or I know so we can take the necessary steps to make it happen.

*Blessings,
Pastor Karen*

Fun Valentine's Day Facts

1. Cupid was known by the ancient Greeks as Eros, the god of love. He had two arrows: one for love and one for hate.
2. There have been numerous St. Valentines throughout history. Three had special feast days in their honor. Historians think either Valentine of Rome or Valentine of Terni was the real-life inspiration for Valentine's Day.
3. Although people have been exchanging Valentine's cards for centuries, it wasn't until the 1840s that cards began being mass-produced and marketed by Esther Howland, known as the Mother of the American Valentine.
4. Thousands of cards are received each year in Verona, Italy addressed to "Juliet" in honor of Shakespeare's classic tale. Each letter is personally answered by a volunteer with the Juliet Club, with a prize going to the most romantic missive.
5. Richard Cadbury is credited with popularizing (and profiting from) the practice of giving boxes of chocolates to one's sweetheart.
6. In the 1800s, people in the UK would send "vinegar valentines" – also called penny dreadfuls – to unwanted suitors.
7. Red roses became a Valentine's tradition in the 17th century, when King Charles II of Sweden proclaimed them the flowers of love.
8. The phrase "wearing your heart on your sleeve" has a literal origin: men in the Middle Ages would affix the name of their beloved on their shirtsleeves.
9. More than \$20 billion is spent each year in the US on Valentine's Day gifts, with \$2.4 billion doled out for candy alone.
10. Fifty-five percent of Americans participate in the holiday by exchanging cards and gifts. Three percent of pet owners give their pets a Valentine's card or gift.
11. Close to 150 million Valentine's cards are sent each year, according to Hallmark, making February 14 the second most popular day for greeting cards, trailing only Christmas.
12. Teachers receive the most Valentine's cards each year, followed by children, mothers and wives.
13. Sweetheart candies were original lozenge-shaped. They began being imprinted with messages in the late 1800s, and soon afterwards were retooled as heart-shaped.
14. Using X as a sign of a kiss dates back to the ancient custom of kissing one's signature on a book, letter or important document.



"Bear" (Jamie's daughter) continues to suffer from seizures

Dale B (Carol's husband) recovering from cancer surgery and receiving treatment for Lung Cancer

Melissa Meyers (Fred's daughter in law) who is being treated for cancer

Steve Hanger suffering from advanced dementia and Parkinson's Disease

Leslie Andrews (Ed's daughter) dealing with high white cell count

Lisa Partin undergoing cancer treatments

Mike (Bowser's son in law) recovering from surgery

Carla (Pastor Karen's friend) dealing with complications following a kidney transplant





KRAFTEE KRAFTERS



Our KRAFTEE KRAFTERS are meeting once again for fellowship and craft projects. They meet every Tuesday morning at 10:00 a.m. at the church and they'd love to have you join them.

For more information call Nancy Mayers (740) 341-8452



HOPE
Helping Other People Eat

Hope Sunday is Feb 2nd but you can bring food in on any Sunday during the month. You may also donate money to the pantry by submitting a check made out to Galilee Lutheran Church (so you get credit for the donation) and our Treasurer will then pass it along to the pantry.



2/7 Leslie Bozman

2/11 Betty Brandeberry

2/11 John Warren

2/14 Sheila Westrick

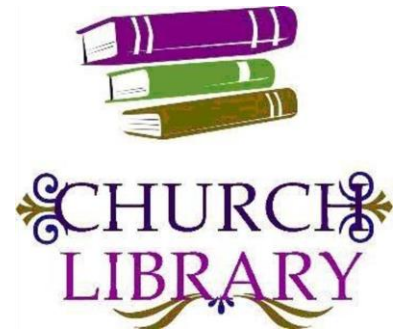
2/28 Theresa Grant



BEAR IT BEARS

Our Bear it Bears are just waiting to be given to someone who is hurting in any way, physically, mentally or emotionally. They are sitting on the chairs in the front of the church.

Just be sure to sign them out in the logbook on the bookcase in the entrance way of the church. This is one of our outreach programs, so let us bear one another's burdens and fulfill the love of Christ.



Kraftee Krafters has developed a library for all church members to use. A reading corner has been created in the back of the sanctuary with a rocking chair and a bookcase full of books for you to choose from. Feel free to borrow a book, or if you like it and want to keep it then by all means feel free to keep it. And if you have a book or two that you'd like to donate you may leave them on the table in their room to be included in the library.



Pastor Karen

Monday by appointment

Thursday 9:00 – 12:00

GALILEE'S TORNADO RELIEF EFFORTS



Southern Ohio Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
*Stronger and Better Together:
Joining Jesus in the Restoration of the World*

After hearing that Galilee is still working in the trenches to help tornado survivors, especially those needing housing assistance during the cold winter months, Bishop Dillahunt allocated another round of Synod Disaster money for us. We recently received their check for \$10,000. This will help us finish getting everyone through the winter and help families still working on repairing/rebuilding their homes.



We will be hosting about 15-20 people who will be coming to help with construction on one of the homes still being repaired. They are a Global Methodist Volunteer group who will arrive on Saturday February 15th and leave on Monday February 17th. They will sleep in our Fellowship Hall. On Saturday they will work during the day and we'll have a hot meal waiting on them for dinner, they'll join us for worship on Sunday morning before heading out to work and we'll again have a hot meal waiting for them that night. After they spend Monday working they will return home.

From what we know now, they will probably be coming back to help again. Not only are they working in CA after the fires and in NC following the hurricane, but they are making Indian Lake a separate cause that they will continue helping with as long as there is a need. Stay tuned for ways that you might be able to help us host this fabulous group and get to meet and greet them during their stay at Galilee

WORSHIP THEMES FOR FEBRUARY



SUNDAY FEBRUARY 2ND THE PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD Luke 2:22-40

This story is a study in contrasts: the infant Jesus with the aged prophets; the joy of birth with the ominous words of Simeon to Mary; the faithful fulfilling of the law with the presentation of the one who will release its hold over us. Through it all, we see the light of God's salvation revealed to the world.

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 9TH Luke 5:1-11

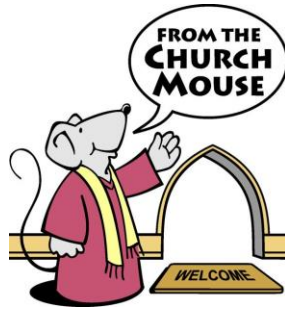
Jesus' teaching of God's word has begun to draw great crowds. For Simon, James, and John, Jesus' teaching inspires hospitality, then obedience, and then risk. After Jesus' creative power is revealed, fear and amazement leads these three fishermen to leave everything behind to become apostles.

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 16TH Luke 6:17-26

After choosing his twelve apostles, Jesus teaches a crowd of followers about the nature and demands of discipleship. He begins his great sermon with surprising statements about who is truly blessed in the eyes of God.

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 23RD Luke 6:27-38

Jesus continues to address a crowd of his disciples. He invites his followers to shower radical love, blessing, forgiveness, generosity, and trust even on enemies and outsiders. Living in harmony with God's intent brings the reward of overflowing blessing.



Hi Everyone,

You are very lucky you are hearing from me. With these temperatures I burrowed down into my snug little home and was hoping not to come out till spring. That didn't work because I have to report the "Galilee News." Lots of eating events, thankfully. The Three Kings lunch, which was so..good. Even had star cookies. Our Tornado families got together for food and fun. You just don't feel so alone when you can band together with folks going through the same thing. Probably be forever friends. Peri keeps that ball rolling, of course she does. Joy continues to be a great evening for everyone. Even with all the eating opportunities, Pastor Karen continues on her "getting healthy" journey. I heard through the grapevine she had to go shopping for new duds. She's such an inspiration to everyone in so many ways.

Lucy and I have taken up YOGA. Yep, every Thursday at 10. Lots of people showing up. Super fun and easy for everyone. Even cowboy Larry is coming. Course had to get him out of those heavy boots. A bit of a challenge. I did hear Don Berlin had a little mishap on the ski slope. It appears he was being a good Samaritan by helping someone and got run over by a young whippersnapper coming down the mountain. He's all good. With the extreme temperatures our neighboring munching deer are back checking out our plants by the front doors. They sure are fast. So.. the netting is back on!

Stay warm.

Love and Hugs

The Church Mouse



Our Annual Meeting to vote on a budget for 2025 and receive the 2024 Book of Reports will be held immediately following worship on Sunday February 9th



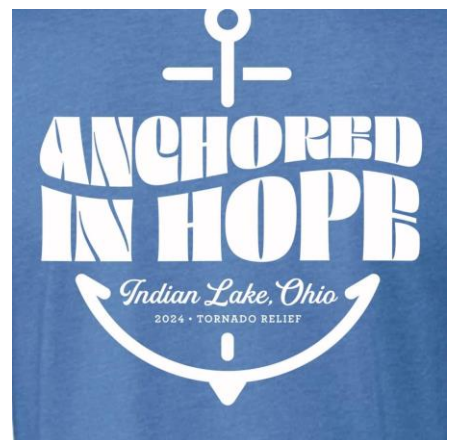


Did you know that the kneeling rail around the altar and the baptismal font were hand made by a member of our congregation? In 1969, at the United Lutheran Church in America's convention it was recommended that churches move to kneeling while receiving communion. Kneeling has been strongly recommended in the Holy Scriptures but the most important directive for the early church was the fact that our Lord knelt in the Garden of Gethsemane when He prayed to God His Father before his death on the cross. A 1969 Galilee newsletter article indicated that "When we approach the altar with humble hearts filled with love and thankfulness for His many blessings and receive the Holy Sacrament, may we remember the precious gifts we receive in and under the elements we receive the forgives of sins and eternal life, gifts from our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" "The kneeling rail surrounding the altar places the altar in its proper perspective. The kneeling rail is the handiwork of Mr. Richard Milkereit, a member of our Church Council. The materials were furnished by Mr. and Mrs. Milkereit, and the cloth for the cushions was given by Mr. Milestone, a Council man and his wife, who is Secretary of the Church Council and of the congregation." The congregation was so thrilled with the beauty and quality of the kneeling rail that it moved Mr. Richard Milkereit to make a matching baptismal font. His goal was to build the font in such a way that it would be attractive in appearance and harmonize with the woods used in the construction of the kneeling rail. The newsletter article indicated that if the congregation had bought a baptismal font, it would have cost them between \$250 and \$375, which calculated in today's dollars would be \$2,150 to \$3,225. The next time you kneel at the altar for communion, you can do so knowing that it was lovingly handcrafted by an early member of Galilee.



THURSDAY FEBRUARY 13TH
1:30 PM

All men of the congregation are invited to join us for our 2025 study on "What It Means To Be A Lutheran". We'd love to have your input as we learn more about our Lutheran heritage and beliefs as well as spending time in fellowship with each other.



TORNADO SURVIVOR
DINNER

THURSDAY FEB 20TH
5:30 PM

You are invited to join us as we provide a safe place for Tornado Survivors to gather and to provide them with a home cooked meal. Just let Peri or Pastor Karen know that you plan to attend so we can make sure we have enough food.



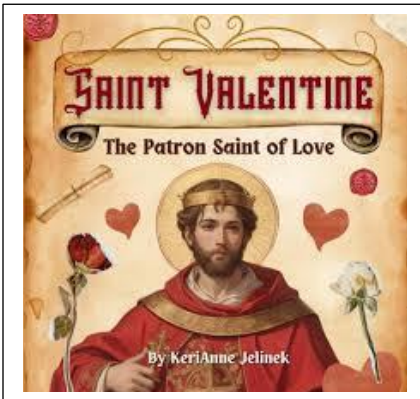
CHAIR YOGA

EVERY THURSDAY AT 10:00 AM

We have a new instructor! Come join us on a Thursday morning and meet Margie, she's a wonderful guide for our journeys.



Bible study remains on break. Our next meeting will be Thursday, March 23, at 10:00am. Our study this year will be "Grateful for Gods Salvation" Our first lesson will be Alive with Christ. You may pick up your study in the Narthex.












St. Valentine is perhaps one of the most celebrated saint days in America; however, the religious understanding of the day has been lost amid the flurry of chocolates, hearts, and jewelry. In taking a look at who St. Valentine was, as well as the reason he has been honored as a saint since the 3rd century, the true meaning of St. Valentine's Day can be uncovered and observed with reverence.

Much of the details of St. Valentine's life have been lost to time. What remains, though, is the story of a man whose love for Christ directed his life, and ultimately led him to a martyr's death. St. Valentine was a Roman priest who ministered to the Christians persecuted under the reign of Claudius II. Because St. Valentine disagreed with the war Rome

was engaged in, he took to marrying engaged Christian couples, which meant the men were spared being enlisted in the Roman army, which only took single men. St. Valentine's devotion to the Gospel of Jesus Christ drove him to aid the persecuted Christians in any way he could. Due to the fact that St. Valentine was a priest, and particularly because he helped the Christians who were oppressed under the rule of Claudius II, he was arrested by the Roman officials. At first, Claudius II took a liking to St. Valentine due to his gentle nature; however, when St. Valentine attempted to convert Claudius II to Christianity, he was ordered to be put to death. While in jail awaiting his martyrdom, St. Valentine restored the sight of the jailer's blind daughter. On the night before he was to be put to death, he wrote a farewell letter to the girl, signing it "From Your Valentine." St. Valentine was beaten with clubs, then stoned, and when these methods failed to kill him, he was beheaded. The date of his death was February 14, 269 or 270. He was buried along the Flaminian Way. Most of his relics currently reside at the Whitefriar Church in Dublin, Ireland. In 496 Pope Gelasius declared that February 14 would be St. Valentine's feast day, in honor of his martyrdom. In recent years, archaeologists have uncovered a Roman catacomb and ancient church bearing the name of St. Valentine. Despite the stories of St. Valentine marrying young couples, as well as the letter he wrote to the jailer's daughter, the origin of his association with love and marriage is somewhat clouded. One theory lies in the pagan tradition of men and women seeking each other out for inappropriate relationships on the feast day of a certain pagan goddess. Since this day was celebrated on February 15, Christians living after the time of St. Valentine attempted to redirect the pagans' interest in love and relationships to the holy example which could be found in the life of St. Valentine, who was celebrated on February 14. Another theory is similar, claiming that February 14 is the date on which birds choose their mates. As a result, St. Valentine is often pictured with birds, particularly lovebirds. This tradition is an attempt made by Christians to turn the eyes of the world toward the Godly representation of love as shown by the life of St. Valentine, in which he laid down his life for love of God, becoming a martyr.

FEBRUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 	3	4 KRAFTEE KRAFTERS 10:00 AM <hr/> AA & ALANON 7:30 PM	5	6 CHAIR YOGA 10:00 AM 	7 Happy Birthday Leslie 	8
9 	10 Happy Birthday tomorrow Betty and John 	11 KRAFTEE KRAFTERS 10:00 AM <hr/> CHURCH COUNCIL 6:00 PM	12	13 CHAIR YOGA 10:00 AM <hr/> MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 1:30	14 Happy Birthday Sheila 	15  Methodist Volunteers here
16  Methodist Volunteers here	17  Methodist Volunteers here	18 KRAFTEE KRAFTERS 10:00 AM <hr/> AA & ALANON 7:30 PM	19	20 CHAIR YOGA 10:00 AM <hr/> TORNADO SURVIVOR DINNER 5:30 PM	21	22
23	24	25 KRAFTEE KRAFTERS 10:00 AM <hr/> AA & ALANON 7:30 PM	26	27 CHAIR YOGA 10:00 AM <hr/> JOY 5:00	28 Happy Birthday Theresa 