



The Clarion

March

2025

Vol. 39, Issue 03

WELCOME TO
CLAIREMONT LUTHERAN/IGLESIA LUTERANA



Worship Services
Sundays at 9:30 (English)
Domingos at 11:30 (Español)

****THE MEANING OF LENT AND
ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES****

Dear Congregation,

As we embark on the sacred season of Lent, I want to take a moment to reflect on its profound significance in our spiritual journeys. **Lent** is a time of preparation, marked by the forty days leading up to Easter, where we are called to contemplate the life, death, and resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ. This season invites us to examine our lives, deepen our faith, and grow closer to God through prayer, fasting, and acts of service. It is an opportunity to turn inward, seeking reconciliation with God as well as with one another.

Ash Wednesday, which marks the beginning of Lent, serves as a powerful reminder of our human mortality and the grace that **GOD** extends to us. During our Ash Wednesday services, we will receive ashes on our foreheads in the shape of a cross, symbolizing our repentance and commitment to spiritual growth. This ancient ritual echoes the call to humility, reminding us that we are dust, and to dust we shall return (Genesis 3:19). It sets the tone for the Lenten journey ahead, encouraging us to reflect on our lives and how we can live out our faith more fully.

I wholeheartedly encourage each of you to participate in any of our Ash Wednesday services and to embrace the Lenten season with an open heart. Togeth-

Lent—Continued on page 4

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THE POWER OF LITTLE THINGS

by Gary Jaus

I was driving Ava, our granddaughter, to Mesa College recently and asking questions about her classes and grades. You know, the school stuff that parents and grandparents worry about. For the record, Ava is working toward a degree in Psychology and her grades are good.

I began the practice of asking Ava about her school day when she was in middle school, and I was giving her and two of her girlfriends rides home after school. Like most middle-schoolers, they would say, 'Oh it was fine, or good, or boring' but they seldom provided details. They were giving me their conclusions, but I wanted the 'why' of their conclusions. Within a few weeks, Ava and her friends knew the routine and started providing colorful details including how they felt about the stuff they were talking about. When they shared specifics, I better understood the events, whether large and small, that had left an impression on them. Our collective time together became rich with discussion, humor and middle-school girl sarcasm. Those rides were just a little thing, that became some of the best moments in all of our lives.

Ava will soon be twenty-one and moving on to San Diego State University. One of her friends is married and the other friend lives out of state. Life goes on.

Today, one of my friends is dying from ALS. We grew up together and have been friends for sixty years. ALS has taken away his ability to verbally communicate so we text. He recently shared that he experiences terrible dreams but didn't explain any further. Like the rides with the girls, his 'terrible dreams' were his conclusion. I wanted to know what was the 'terribleness' of those dreams. I was prying but I wanted to understand. My friend opened up and texted that every night he fears going to sleep and never waking up. He understands the reality of his situation and all the life events he is not going to experience. Time that he will never have with his grandkids, their weddings, vacations with his wife and life in general. His mind races with thoughts of loss, and fears of the unknown, hence the terrible dreams. My question was a little thing but because I asked, I understood what he meant. Reflecting on it now, I think what's more important is that he shared his fears and sadness with someone. He knows now that someone understands at least to some degree what he's going through. He isn't dying imprisoned by dark unspoken burdens.

On those drives with the girls and those moments with my friend, I've gained appreciation for how little things can affect our spirits. Little things like laughter, a flower, a hug, a picture, a question or just time with someone can calm us.



Ava absolutely loves hamsters. Some of God's littlest creatures, they don't have dynamic personalities; they mostly eat, sleep, hide food and run on their exercise wheels. They don't purr or bark like cats or dogs. The truth is we give more attention to hamsters than they give to us.

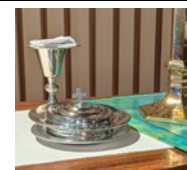
A VIEW FROM THE PEW

By Bill Fredericks

Decades ago, a Pastor told Pat and me that if we wanted to keep our young children quiet and interested during the service, we should sit in the front row where they could see what was going on. We did so and continue to do so today, even though every Lutheran knows that two to three rows from the front is as close as anyone dares to sit.

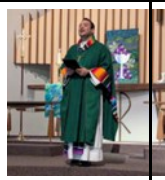
As we enter the Sanctuary we are greeted and offered the day's bulletin. These days, as we patiently await the installation of the new heat-exchangers that will calm the winter chill, Pat and I sit in the front row sharing a warm blanket over our laps. We greet those who pass by. Hugs and important conversations often ensue.

Platins, cup, and trays have their appointed places on the alter ready for their role in Holy Communion later in the service.



Our Sanctuary Choir prepares for their assigned role of leading the congregation in hymns and presenting God's message with their anthem.

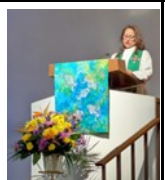
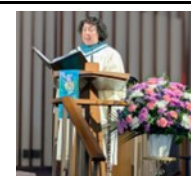
With the Prelude, the organist announces the official beginning of the service, the time when we prepare ourselves for worship. An acolyte arrives before the alter with the candlelighter aflame, bows before God and ignites the candle wicks.



When the prelude ends, the Pastor offers God's welcome to both those congregants present and those worshiping remotely. We are all God's children and all are welcome.

The service progresses through Confession & Forgiveness, Quiet times for Reflection & Prayers and Hymns.

A lay reader leads us through the readings and introduces the Psalm. These are the words that will complement the day's Gospel lesson. We thank God for the Words offered.



After reading the Lectionary's assigned Gospel verses; the Pastor tells us about what was happening 2000 years ago and what we need to know about the meaning for us today.

Flowers are given as a reminder or celebration of something or someone

Using the Apostles' Creed we profess our belief in God, our creator; Jesus Christ, our savior; and the Holy Spirit, our advocate before God. This is followed by



Church Business

November, December, January



Financial Report 2024-2025							
	Income				Expenses		
	Actual	Budget	Difference		Actual	Budget	Difference
Nov 2024	\$25,310	\$33,703	-\$8,393		-\$13,025	\$41,063	\$408,042
Dec 2024	\$226,785	\$52,703	\$174,082		\$252,198	\$40,813	\$683,208
Jan 2025	\$39,479	\$44,854	-\$5,375		\$50,646	\$63,511	-\$12,865
January	net income	-\$11,167			2025 YTD Net income	-\$11,167	

Lent—Continued from Page 1)

er, let us commit to growing in faith and love, supporting one another as we seek to follow Christ more closely. May this Lent be a transformative experience for our community and a time of renewal as we prepare to celebrate the joy of Easter Sunday.

In Christ's love,
Pastor Manuel.

Little Things—Continued from page 2

Ava takes great care of her hamsters, but it's not a one-way street. I look in on them almost every day. For a few moments I'm in a quiet state of mind caring about another living thing. Two little furry things named Mocha and Bean give me moments of peace. Two little things that help to find a few seconds of tranquility.

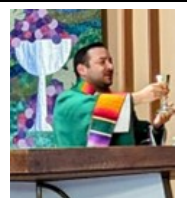
With all our big worries and pressing concerns, I hope we all make time to find the little hamsters in our lives.



View from the Pew — Continued From Page 3

the prayers of the day then the Passing of the Peace. The Sanctuary choir offers their Anthem and the congregation offers their gifts to God.

The Pastor prepares for us to share in the Holy meal with our Lord. We express our prayer to God with the words that Jesus taught. Then as the Words of Institution are offered, the Pastor bows before God and asks God's blessing on our plea. The elements are offered to all first, then after all others are communed the Pastor partakes and leaves the cup



The service ends with a sending hymn and a blessing. Then we are sent to go back into the world and spread our beliefs to others. The organist ends the service with the Postlude; a time that one organist named as his "Time of Prayer." **AMEN.**

**March 2025 “Faithfulness in these days”
by Denise Rector**

Session Three: Faith Adventures: Peter and Cornelius

We do not always see eye-to-eye with our neighbor. And yet, we are called to love our neighbor. Peter’s experience with someone different gives the Holy Spirit an opportunity to teach Peter, the church and us to see others as God sees them.

Theme Verses: Acts 10:1-48



ALL are invited to attend the *Gather* Bible Study

Patience Bible Study: Monday, March 10 at 12:30 p.m. in Room 4.
Bible Study Leader is

Ruth Bible Study: Thursday, March 13 at 10:00 a.m. in Room 1.
Bible Study Leader is

COMING UP— Pacifica Women of the ELCA Spring Event
Saturday, March 1, Fountain Valley Lutheran Church.

Calling all Bunco players!

When: 2nd Friday every month.

Where: Narthex

Time: 1:00 p.m.

\$5.00 Donation for charity and prizes.

All are welcome.

March 14 at 1:00 p.m.



**April 2025
CLARION DEADLINE
Thursday, March 20 @ 4 p.m.
harrietmorris@cox.net**

PASTOR MANUEL BORBON'S INSTALLATION



Lentén Services

05 March / marzo: noon: Ash Wednesday service in English / Servicio de Miércoles de Ceniza en inglés a mediodía

Servicio de Miércoles de Ceniza bilingüe a las 7 p.m./ bilingual Ash Wednesday service at 7 p.m.




Wednesdays in Lent, 12 March through 09 April, - Holden Evening Prayer service at 7 p.m, preceded by a potluck soup dinner at 6p.m.



Los miércoles de Cuaresma, del 12 de marzo al 9 de abril, servicio de oración vespertina de Holden a las 7 p. m., precedido por una cena de sopa compartida a las 6 p. m.



M · A · R · C · H 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 7:00am SA
			Ash Wednesday			
2 9:30am Worship Service 10:30 March birthday cake will be served 11:30am Servicio de Adoración en Español, 1:15 Rise & Shine	3 1:00pm AA 4:00pm Gospel Study 5:30-6:30pm Glee Choir, 6:30pm Scouts 6:30-7:30pm Esperanza Youth Choir 7:30 - 9pm Sanctuary Choir 8:00pm AA Meeting	4 1:00pm AA 6:30pm Handbell rehearsal 6:30pm Cub scouts 7:00pm Al-Anon	5  10-11:30am ashes will be given out front 12:00pm Ash Wednesday service 4pm Stephen Ministry 7:00pm Ash Wednesday bilingual service	6 8:00am Sandwich Min. 1:00pm AA Meeting 5:30- 6:30 Cherub Choir	7 8-12pm Food Distribution 1:00pm AA 6:00pm Al-Anon	8 7:00am SA
9 9:30am Worship Service 11:30am Servicio de Adoración en Español, 1:15pm Rise & shine	10 1:00pm AA 12:30pm Patience bible 4:00pm Gospel Study 5:30-6:30pm Glee Choir, 6:30pm Scouts 6:30-7:30pm Esperanza Youth Choir, 7:30 - 9pm Sanctuary Choir 8:00pm AA Meeting	11 1:00pm AA 4:30pm Evangelism team 6:30pm Handbell rehearsal 6:30pm Executive Team 7:15pm Council meeting 6:30pm Cub scouts 7:00pm Al-Anon	12 10:00am Southern Care 6:00pm Soup dinner 7:00pm Holden evening prayer	13 8:00am Sandwich ministry 10:00am Ruth bible study 1:00pm AA Meeting 5:30- 6:30 Cherub Choir	14 8-12pm Food Distribution 1:00pm Bunco 1:00pm AA 6:00pm Al-Anon	15 7:00am SA
16 9:30am Worship Service 11:30am Servicio de Adoración en Español, 1:15pm Rise & shine	17 1:00pm AA 4:00pm Gospel Study, 6:30pm Scouts 5:30-6:30pm Glee Choir, 6:30pm Scouts 6:30-7:30pm Esperanza Youth Choir 7:30 - 9pm Sanctuary Choir 8:00pm AA Meeting	18 1:00pm AA 6:30pm Handbell rehearsal 6:30pm Cub scouts 7:00pm Al-Anon	19 4pm Stephen Ministry 6:00pm Soup dinner 7:00pm Holden evening prayer	20 8:00am Sandwich Min. 1:00pm AA Meeting 5:30- 6:30 Cherub Choir 6:30 Worship committee	21 8-12pm Food Distribution 1:00pm AA 6:00pm Al-Anon	22 7:00am SA
23 9:30am Worship Service 11:30am Servicio de Adoración en Español, 5:30pm Choristers Guild Children's and Youth Choir festival followed by dinner _____ 30 10:00 Bilingual service	24 1:00pm AA 4:00pm Gospel Study, 5:30-6:30pm Glee Choir, 6:30pm Scouts 6:30-7:30pm Esperanza Youth Choir 7:30 - 9pm Sanctuary Choir 8:00pm AA Meeting	25 1:00pm AA 6:30pm Handbell rehearsal 6:30pm Cub scouts 7:00pm Al-Anon	26 6:00pm dinner 7:00pm Holden evening prayer	27 8:00am Sandwich Min. 1:00pm AA Meeting 5:30- 6:30 Cherub Choir	28 8-12pm Food Distribution 1:00pm AA 6:00pm Al-Anon	29 7:00am SA

CLC Volunteer Schedule - March 2025

Lay Readers

- 3/2 Lynn Ten Eyck
- 3/9 Susan Gjerset
- 3/16 Gary Lange
- 3/23 Bonita Martinez
- 3/30 Lili Muñoz



Communion Assistants

- 3/2 Bonita Martinez, Pam Allen, Lorri Carlsen, Harriet Carmona
- 3/9 Nancy and Sarah Groesbeck, Lewis TenHulzen
- 3/16 Carol Nichols, Harriet Morris, Holly Boyle, Rita Leatherman
- 3/23 Gary Jaus, Aida Jaus, Gary Lange
- 3/30 Pam Allen, Harriet Carmona, Sandra Logan

Welcome Team

- 3/2 Pam Allen, Sandra Logan, Curtis Cline
- 3/9 Kathy Reed, Gary Lange, Emilie Lauchmen
- 3/16 Harriet Carmona, Renée Shepherd, Holly Boyle
- 3/23 Rita Leatherman, Janet Wood, Karen Creusere
- 3/30 Sandra Logan, Pam Allen, Curtis Cline

- James Brown 3/3
- Christopher Groesbeck 3/3
- James Anderson 3/4
- Kathy Farrington 3/5
- Erica Robles 3/7
- Tomi Johnson 3/7
- Stephen Fiorina 3/7
- Mary Crane 3/8
- Helen Bradley 3/9
- Susan Gjerset 3/9
- Patricia Fredericks 3/9
- John Gjerset 3/10
- Martha Munevar 3/11
- Davis Engel 3/12
- Harry Walker 3/12
- Charles Stead 3/13
- Jeff TenHulzen 3/15
- Thomas Knepple 3/16
- Lara Engel 3/20
- Michael Wagner 3/20
- Emilie Lauchmen 3/20
- Gabriella Anderson 3/22
- Dylan Thomas 3/23
- Ava Rice 3/23
- Ellen Sauder 3/23
- Harriet Carmona 3/24
- Hanne Vos 3/28
- Curtis Carlsen 3/28
- Derek McCauley 3/29



- 3/2
- 3/9 LeRoy Bannach
- 3/16 Tim and Lisa Neal
- 3/23
- 3/30

Media Team

- 3/2 Lewis John TenHulzen, Mitchell Little
- 3/9 Lewis John TenHulzen, Mitchell Little
- 3/16 Lewis John TenHulzen, Mitchell Little
- 3/23 Lewis John TenHulzen, Mitchell Little
- 3/30 Lewis John TenHulzen, Mitchell Little



Harriet Carmona
&
Sandra Logan

If you are not on this list and celebrate a birthday in March please contact the office to update our info.