

# **FEBRUARY 2018 UPCOMING EVENTS**

**FEBRUARY 4<sup>TH</sup> IS OUR ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**- held immediately after the service, this is the time we ask all members of our congregation to gather so that we can vote on important issues for our church. This year we will be voting on

- 1) several items that concern our Mission Investment Plan
- 2) our Synod Assembly representative
- 3) representatives for the Congregation Council

**Please plan on attending this very crucial meeting.**

**FEBRUARY 9<sup>TH</sup> THE LUNCH BUNCH** is celebrating Valentine's Day! Bring your resolutions and a dish to share to the church at noon with a game of bingo to follow. Want to be part of the happenings but need more information? Please contact Sheryl Felde at 885-5325.

**FEBRUARY 10<sup>TH</sup> WE WILL HOST A NATIVE AMERICAN FLUTE WORKSHOP AND CONCERT WITH RONA YELLOWROBE.** Ms. Yellowrobe, the 2014 & 2016 Native American Music Award's "Flutist of the Year" will be a feature in the afternoon workshop where she will share her own experience with the power of Sound Healing with her Singing Bowls, Drums, Rattles, Bells Voice Gong and Flute. She will star in the evening concert starting at 6:30. Abounding Grace attendees get a 50% discount on tickets. For more information or to purchase tickets for either event, please contact Paul Surhoff at 908-917-2307 or psurhoff@gmail.com.

**FEBRUARY 12<sup>TH</sup> OUR COUNCIL WILL GATHER**- to discuss the happenings around our church. We hope that you will join us at 7pm in the Conference Rm. If you have something you would like to mention or have discussed, please contact Gerri Eberle or Pastor Keith to have it put on the agenda.

**FEBRUARY 14<sup>TH</sup> IS ASH WEDNESDAY.** We will begin the Lenten Season with a Soup Supper (soup and bread only) at 6pm and a Service at 7pm. This is the start of our traditional Wednesday night services which will continue thru March 21<sup>st</sup>. If you are planning to attend the Soup Suppers and would like to bring either soup or bread please see the sign-up sheet in the Narthex. If you are planning on attending the 7pm service, please consider asking a friend to join you.

**THE WOMEN OF THE ELCA WILL NOT BE MEETING THIS MONTH.**

## **SIGN UP NOW!**

On **Saturday, March 3**, from **9 am to 3 pm**, we will have a meeting with our Director for Evangelical Mission, the Rev. Miguel Gomez-Acosta to seek a future for Abounding Grace. We must have input and participation from leaders and members who love this church if this meeting is to be successful in charting a course through the troubled waters in which we find ourselves. Please make it a priority to participate in this meeting, and sign up in the Narthex.

## **ON-GOING EVENTS and ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **HAPPY FEBRUARY BIRTHDAY to**

2/7 Will Trembley (son of Artesia Runge)

2/8 Ricky Robnett

2/9 Kay Victorson

2/10 Mait Board

2/11 Alan Helgeson

2/12 Gerri Eberle

2/21 Karen Paye

### **HAPPY FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARY TO**

2/14 Jeff and Claudine Williams

2/19/53 Roland and Shirley Berner

2/21 Don and Jan Foreman

**DO YOU EVER HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT THE READINGS?** The Thursday Bible Study at 11:30 led by Pastor Keith, are a deeper study of the following Sunday's readings and usually last 60- 90 minutes. It an excellent way to learn the history and context of the readings as well gaining a more meaningful look into what it is that our Lord is trying to teach us. For more information, please call the church office.

**IF YOU NEED A RIDE FOR ANY SERVICE, PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE AND WE WILL MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR YOU!**

**CHECK THE SIGN UP BOARD PLEASE!** You are needed! Sunday mornings are a busy time around here and you are just what we need! Jobs range from Sunday School teachers/ helpers to communion assistants and everything in between. We will be more than happy to show you how easy some of these tasks are! Just ask any member of council or Pastor Keith.

**WHEN WE SENSE GOD CALLING US** to make a beginning, at whatever that may be, it's important not to let discourages or opponents or distraction turn us away. What is waiting for a start in your life? Is there anything about which you wonder if it could be God giving you a nudge?

**SUNDAY HOSPITALITY TABLE** – Who doesn't like to have a chance to sit down with a cup of hot coffee (or tea), a sweet treat, and for a little while, just chat? It could be with a friend you've known for a long time or someone you just met. It's a nice feeling, isn't it? Well that's what we try to provide right after each Sunday service. Here's a place to talk about the sermon or the music. Here's a time to discuss an event that just occurred or will be coming up soon. You may think that you're just giving yourself a little refreshment time, but don't forget the person you greet with conversation. Could it be that person needed somebody to share their thoughts with as well? Could it be you're a blessing to someone and you never knew it? By the way, that's alright, God knew, and it's called... loving your neighbor.

**IF YOU HAVE ANY CORRECTIONS TO YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION**- please let Jay in the office know as soon as possible.

**THE PEACE CANDLE** – Our church carries on a tradition that began in Russia, of lighting a candle each week on our altar as a symbol of our prayer for peace in our world. We invite visitors from other congregations to take a Peace Candle along with the literature of its history to your home church to continue the tradition. If you would like to take the Peace Candle to your home church please mention it to the Pastor or an Usher and we will be happy to “pass it on.”

**PRAYER CHAIN**- Our church has a Prayer Chain. Anyone with a prayer request, please call **Shirley Berner at 885-4892**. Also, anyone that is interested in helping on the Prayer Chain please contact Shirley to lighten the load. **If you have someone on the list that should be taken off or someone to add, please contact Shirley Berner and Jay Froehlich in the office.**

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN**

Donald Stoelting (husband of Hanna), Michael H. Botti, (son of Mike Botti), Chris Camp, John Stum (son of Paul & Martha Stum), Audrey Neymeyer (granddaughter of Cheryl Emtman), Clay Hardwick (grandson of Jane Dunfee), Jessica & Tom Lauwers, James Simpson (from Aspire), Levi Thompson (grandson of Dave Kitner), Jonathon Batchler (nephew of Bill and Jay Froehlich), Travis Dodge (friend of MaKain Willard), Tyler and Jay Jahn, Chip Boyce (friend of Maybelle Armier).

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR FRIENDS**

Bob Williamson, Cheryl Emtman, Sarah Williams (niece of Cheryl Emtman), Sara Seagrove, Tiffany (granddaughter of Virginia Reymer), Christopher Lawson (grandson of Maggie Cook), the Robnett Family, Jeannie Van Sickle (daughter Mark Westlake), Virginia Reymer, Robert Lloyd, Ron Briggs (friend of Cheryl Emtman), Eric Leland, Peter Leveratt (brother of Carol Leveratt), Ryan Judd, Alice Yaskanich, Kathie Josephs, Betty Hetler, Mark Westlake, Susan Martinez, and Gretchen Surhoff (niece of Paul & Sharon Surhoff), Walter Brewer, Christine Gilbert, David Glarborg (son of Estelle Glarborg), Police Officer Mike Duffrin, Don and Nancy (brother-in-law and sister of Kathy Peters), Linda Pederson Montoya, Will Trembly (son of Artesia Runge).