



## MARCH 2017

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## The Season of Lent

Our liturgical preparation for Easter takes place through three distinct periods or steps. The first was Pre-lent. The second is Lent which is the time between Ash Wednesday and Judica. The final step is Passiontide and Holy Week.

**ASH WEDNESDAY** takes its name from the ceremony of ashes. We begin our journey by mourning for our sins and setting our faces toward Jerusalem. The Sundays are all given Latin names. Those names come from the first word or phrase of the Introit ("entrance" Psalm) assigned for the day.

The first Sunday is called **INVOCABIT**, which means "he will call." It comes from Psalm 91: *"He will call upon me and I will answer him."* The Gospel is Our Lord's temptation in the desert and the Psalmist gives voice to Our Lord's prayer as He faces Satan in order to deliver us from evil.

The second Sunday is called **REMINISCERE**, which means "remember." It comes from Psalm 25: *"Remember, O Lord, Your tender mercies and Your loving-kindnesses."* The Gospel is the account of the Canaanite woman's terrible battle with Our Lord for her demon-possessed daughter. The woman holds Our Lord to His Word. She insists that He remember His promises and be the Messiah.

The third Sunday is called **OCULI**, which means "My eyes." It also comes from Psalm 25: *"Mine eyes are ever toward the Lord, for He shall pluck my feet out of the net."* The Gospel recounts the healing of a deaf and mute man. His eyes were rightly on the Lord.

The fourth Sunday is called **LAETARE**, which means "rejoice." It comes from Isaiah 66: *"Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be glad with her; all you who love her."* The Gospel is the feeding of the five thousand who had ample cause for rejoicing.

The fifth Sunday, **JUDICA**, "Judge" from Psalm 43:1, is the beginning of Passiontide.

This season is meant to order our hearts and minds upon not only the terrible cost of Our Lord's gracious sacrifice on our behalf, but also on His willingness to be our Savior and to reconcile us to His Father. So also, the entire season, as even our entire faith and persons, is observed in the sure and certain knowledge of the Resurrection.

*Pastor Peck*





Lutheran Women In Mission

Welcome to all women of the congregation!

Jesus Christ Above All

Philippians 2:9

What?: NATIONAL LWML CONVENTION

Date: June 22-25, 2017

Location: Albuquerque, New Mexico

Theme: "Jesus Christ Above All"

Scripture Verse: Therefore God has highly exalted Him and bestowed on Him the name that is above every name (Philippians 2:9).

President: Patti Ross

Convention Goal Statement: Empowered by the Holy Spirit, through Word and Sacrament, I will proclaim Jesus Christ above all.

Convention Objectives - Each convention attendee will be:

- Encouraged through worship and Bible study.
• Equipped to share His message of salvation.
• Engaged in celebrating God's faithfulness while serving the Lord with gladness.

North Central Zone

Spring Workshop - April 29th

A workshop will be held at Gethsemane Lutheran Church in Northglenn for all to come together as sisters in Christ. Please join us for registration at 8:30 a.m. and Bible study beginning at 10:00 a.m. Lunch will be provided. Sue Hart from Bethesda Lutheran Communities will be our guest speaker. Volunteers from the Bethesda Auxiliary will have several tables of homemade craft items to purchase, with proceeds going to Bethesda homes. A fun workshop activity will be to put together birthday boxes for the Bethesda residents.

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Our LWML has received a monetary gift, part of which will be used to establish and maintain a lending library for the members of Wheat Ridge Lutheran Church. The goal of the library is to provide theologically appropriate reading and other visual and audio material that is in keeping with the teachings of the LCMS and Wheat Ridge Lutheran Church. More information to come soon.

The greeting card kiosk in the narthex is a good way to purchase faith-based anniversary, birthday, get-well, and sympathy cards for your needs at only \$1 each! The proceeds are used for projects of our LWML. Thank you for your support.

MITE SUNDAY - March 12 - Fill your Mite Box and bring it along to church as together our Mites can reach many!



Next LWML meeting
Saturday, March 11th at 9:00 a.m.

Thank You!

Thank you to all who signed the cards for Valentines For Vets. We trust that we made someone smile and feel a little better, as they received their valentine and the encouraging words.

These Missions Need Your Help

March 31st is the deadline for your mission mite offerings to help fund 19 mission grants in the 2015-2017 Biennium. With God's never ending love on your side, you can help raise the \$169,435 still needed to reach the Mission Goal of \$2,000,000. These LWML Mission Grants still need your help and prayer support: Renovation of JEM Seminary Buildings, Hope and Healing to the Navajo People, Bringing the Gospel to the Lost Sheep of Israel, and LCMS Young Adult Corps.



**EASTER FLOWERS**

Instead of lilies to decorate the altar for Easter Sunday, vases of a variety of cut flowers will be placed near the altar. If you would like to help decorate the altar for Easter Sunday, place your donated money in an envelope and put in the collection plate or give to the office. They may be taken home after the late service, without the vases. Let's help beautify the church for Easter Sunday.

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**MIDWEEK LENTEN WORSHIP  
WEDNESDAY 6:30 pm**

Read the Psalms chosen for each midweek service to meditate on for the series of services for Lent -

- ✝ Ash Wednesday – March 1 – **Psalm 6**
- ✝ Lent 2 - March 8 – **Psalm 32**
- ✝ Lent 3 - March 15 – **Psalm 38**
- ✝ Lent 4 - March 22 – **Psalm 102**
- ✝ Lent 5 - March 29 – **Psalm 130**
- ✝ Lent 6 – April 4 – **Psalm 143**



**Join us for Soup Supper at 5:30 pm**

**FAMILY GAME NIGHT**

Family Game nights are still the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of each Month at 6:30. Bring your favorite game, and some snacks to share. In March, that will fall on the 17<sup>th</sup>, St. Patrick's Day, so be sure to wear some green, too.

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**Gift Card Program**

*Did You Know?* When you shop at King Soopers and Safeway. they will pay a percent of what you put on their reloadable gift card to Wheat Ridge Lutheran Church. Purchases made at the stores with the reloaded gift cards for all the usual grocery store items plus fuel from their fuel stations and medicine from their pharmacies qualify for this gift card-rewards program. The reloaded gift cards have to be purchased from the church and the stewardship committee administers the program. See Mel Furgeson for purchases of these gift cards. There is a \$25.00 minimum for a reloadable gift card.

The Church received a very nice thank you card from a couple that we caroled to at Christmas time (see below). We received this from The Meswarbs, 8750 W. 35<sup>th</sup> Ave., Wheat Ridge.

Thank you so very much for coming to "carol" at our home. That was a highlight of our holiday celebration! Happy New Year!

Norm and Carol Meswarb

P.S. We worship at Wheat Ridge Congregational.

**STEWARDSHIP TODAY:**

**WHO AM I?** You are a steward. Every human being has been created for this task. The Lord formed us in order to be His hands and His feet caring for the entire creation that He had spoken into existence. *"But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, He will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you."* John 14:26 It is the Holy Spirit at work in the hearts and lives of stewards that softens hardened hearts, loosens clutched hands and directs feet and lives in the way of faithfulness.  
( from: StewardCAST – LCMS)

# Reformation in the Home

April 29, 2017 at 8:00am



Wheat Ridge Lutheran Church  
[www.wrlutheran.org](http://www.wrlutheran.org)

**“REFORMATION IN THE HOME”** is the theme to this year’s Lutheran Lay Conference, hosted by the ACTS group. Please mark your calendars to join us here at the church for a wonderful presentation by Rev. John Pless, assistant professor of pastoral ministry and missions at Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, Indiana. His presentation on **Praying Luther’s Small Catechism** returns us to the riches of this treasure.

Registration is open on our church website, or contact Janet in the church office. **Registration fee is \$5** and can be made any time from now until April 29, 2017. The registration fee includes the presentation by Rev. Pless, morning goodies, lunch, and a folder with supplies.

In keeping with our Reformation theme, we will be serving traditional German foods for lunch. We are asking congregation members to bring salads and desserts (potluck-style), as the ACTS group will provide Brats, hotdogs, and cabbage burgers (aka, Runzas or Beirocks). There will be a sign-up sheet in the back of the church starting the middle of March along with recipe suggestions, but all ideas are welcome. We thank you for your help and support for this event.

## TRAVELING BACK IN TIME

To Pastors and churches of the Rocky Mountain District:

Trinity Lutheran Church and School, Fort Morgan, Colorado, is offering a taste of what the Children of Israel experienced as they worshiped God after they left Egypt. It's called "The Tabernacle Experience", and it truly is what the name implies: an experience. This is a full-size (according to Bible dimensions) recreation of the Tabernacle and its furnishings, just as they were explained to Moses in the book of Exodus.

You will be ushered out of the ordinary and into God's extraordinary presence to experience a day in the life of a priest as he attends his duties in The Tabernacle. The experience is simple, yet utterly profound, private, and intimate. The Lord's compassion, mercy, and love toward us is shown in every aspect of the tabernacle. His plan for our redemption is revealed, and His desire to live among us is evident.

The Opening Day is Friday, May 5<sup>th</sup> and is specifically open for free to all Pastors and their families. Sign up now for the 50-minute tour May 5 so you can share your experience and encourage your congregation members to join us on any day from **May 5<sup>th</sup> through May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2017**. Everyone will travel through in pairs to avoid distractions of too many people at one time. Each person will wear headphones (or your own ear buds) as a narrator explains the tabernacle and its contents as you proceed on your journey.

The Tabernacle opens to the public at 11:00 each day, so large groups are asked to schedule their time before 11:00 so they can experience the tour together as a group. The cost is \$3.00 per child, and \$5.00 for adults, or a maximum of \$20.00 per immediate family.

Portable restrooms will be available; school restrooms can be used by the handicapped or in emergencies. A short explanation of the tour can be found on YouTube, The Tabernacle Experience. The location for this event is: **Trinity Lutheran School**

**1215 W. 7<sup>th</sup> Ave.**

**Fort Morgan, CO 80701**

Please sign up on our website at [trinitylutheranfortmorgan.com](http://trinitylutheranfortmorgan.com), or on the internet. Go to: The Tabernacle Experience, Locations, then Trinity Lutheran. Address any questions to: Ann Stivers at [bastivers@wigginstel.com](mailto:bastivers@wigginstel.com)



# MISSION EURASIA



The Newsletter of Rev. Craig and Paula Donofrio

Visit our Blog at [CraigAndPaula.org](http://CraigAndPaula.org)



Pastor Craig and Paula Donofrio



## JOIN OUR TEAM!

For every Soldier, Sailor, Marine, Airman or Coast Guardsman on the front lines, there are many, many more Soldiers, Sailors, Marines, Airmen and Coast Guardsmen serving in support. Those in support are every bit as vital as those who serve on the front. We are on the front lines of the battle for the Gospel, but we need you to join us with your prayer and support so that we will be well equipped for the work that lies ahead.

**Will you join in the work of the Gospel, by pledging \$10-\$40 (or more) a month?**



To be added to or removed from this mailing list, send an email to [craig.donofrio@lcmsintl.org](mailto:craig.donofrio@lcmsintl.org) with the word **ADD** or **REMOVE** in the subject line.

## CYBER MISSIONS - A New Way of Thinking



*“Soon, we will be proclaiming the grace of Jesus Christ to millions of people EVERYDAY in hundreds, of languages through the internet, radio and television! But this is just the beginning.”*

We are living in a unique time in history. Our world is connected in ways that have never before been seen.

It was just within my lifetime that information traveled as far as a

television or radio station could reach. It was within my grandparents lifetime that information traveled as fast as a horse, or train.

We live in a different world than our grandparents or great grandparents, but our mission efforts have been much slower to evolve than our media. We in America are used to radio, podcasts, and videos in English, but what about our mission work around the world? We are slowly catching up to the technology of our day when it comes to the most important information in the world. This information changes lives. It changes those who would harm Christians and Christianity and turns them into saints who rejoice in a loving God who died for them. The Gospel of Jesus Christ brings life and light to a dead and dark world.

The information of the Gospel needs to be proclaimed in new ways, and that’s what we’re doing! We’re getting the Gospel of Jesus Christ into the ears of those who have never heard it. Soon, we will be proclaiming the grace of Jesus Christ to millions of people EVERYDAY IN HUNDREDS OF LANGUAGES through the internet, radio, and television! But this is just the beginning.

*continued on next page*

## Building Our Support Network

**We have been busy traveling the highways of America. So many congregations have shown us such much warmth and love. We are appreciative for them.**

**Many thanks go to:**

Our Savior Lutheran Church, Fenton, Mo.  
 Lamb of God Lutheran Church, Las Vegas, NV  
 St. John’s Lutheran Church, Chicago, IL  
 St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Concordia, Mo  
 Crown of Life Lutheran Church, San Antonio, Tx  
 Trinity Lutheran Church, Corpus Christi, Tx  
 Grace Lutheran Church, Grass Valley, Ca  
 Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Carson City, Nv.

Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Rocklin, Ca  
 Our Savior Lutheran Church, Pacifica, Ca  
 Salem Lutheran School, Affton, Mo  
 St. Paul’s Lutheran School, Prior Lake, Mn  
 Christ Lutheran Church, Normal, Il  
 Mt. Olive Lutheran Church, Corpus Christi, Tx  
 Trinity Lutheran Church, Troy, Mo

## Prayer, Praise and Thanksgiving

- ☆ For safe travels for Craig and Paula as they travel around the United States building their support network.
- ☆ That we will have built a strong support network to deploy and engage the world for Christ as soon as possible.
- ☆ For fellow Missionary families in the Eurasia region and around the world.
- ☆ For the the Global Lutheran Network initiative. To proclaim the Gospel via media in every language in the world.
- ☆ In thanks for the thousands of Muslim refugees throughout Eurasia who have come to faith in Jesus Christ as their Savior and have recently been baptized!

## Cyber Missions, *continued*

Instead of reaching one person at a time with the Gospel, what if we could reach thousands or even millions at a time? What if people in a city, town or village heard the Gospel and they came together for worship and raised up a pastor from their midst? That's exactly what recently happened. Without even sending a missionary to Switzerland, some people heard the Gospel through one of my podcasts (The God Whisperers [www.godwhisperers.org](http://www.godwhisperers.org)) and are in the process of starting a church! I can't wait to work with these dear saints!

In 1992, .05% of people in the world had access to the internet. By the year 2014, over 40% of people worldwide were connected to the internet. This number increases by 5-8% every Year. By the year 2020, two thirds to three quarters of the people in the world will have access to the internet, and through it, the Gospel.

We need to reach out in over six thousand languages. We can now do this work more efficiently and with less cost than ever before. A willing pastor or theologian with internet access and about \$250 worth of equipment can create online radio and even video content to proclaim Christ and Him crucified in their native tongue.

With several pastors and theologians creating recordings, we will proclaim the Gospel over and over again, creating weekly programs that proclaim Jesus Christ and His grace for sinners. Rebroadcasting these recordings three to five times a day, this content will provide a 24 hour a day internet radio station. It can also be used on AM, FM and Shortwave radio to reach those without the internet.

Out of about fifty five million people who die every year, thirty seven million die without Christ. We are doing something about this tragedy. With the prayers and financial support of hundreds of saints, our ministry together can have an impact on the world for Christ in greater numbers than ever before.



## Did you Know?

One hundred and two years before Martin Luther nailed the 95 Thesis to the Church Door in Wittenberg, Jan Hus (pron. Yan Huss) was burned at the stake for saying many of the same things that Martin Luther said? Luther even identified himself as a Hussite when he debated in Leipzig.

Jan Has was a Bohemian Priest and chancellor of the University in Prague who believed Scripture alone as the authority for the church, Christ alone forgives sins, Communion should be received in both kinds and that the sale of indulgences was against the Christian Faith.



## Contact Information

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## Following the Donofrios' Mission Journey



**Would you prayerfully consider partnering with us in spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ with a pledge for \$15, \$25, \$50, \$100 or \$200 a month or more?**

**YOUR GIFTS HELP PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL TO LOST SOULS!**

*Support the Donofrios' Missionary work with a tax-deductible gift!*

The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod  
PO BOX 66861  
St. Louis, MO. 63166-6861

Gifts can also be made securely online at  
[www.lcms.org/givenow/donofrio](http://www.lcms.org/givenow/donofrio)

1-888-930-4438 to speak with a Donor Care Representative

Make checks payable to: The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod (or "LCMS")  
In the memo line, please write: "Donofrio Eurasia"

