



## ***NEWSLETTER.....February 2012***

### **PASTOR SCHROEDER... A Time of Remembering, Repentance and Renewal**

Early in my ministry there was a summary of the Lenten season as, “A Time of Remembrance, Repentance and Renewal”. This has stuck with me throughout the ministry. Sometimes the word “Remembrance” has been expressed as “Reflection”. Regardless, the summary serves as a wonderful outline of the season.

Indeed, in the Verba, the Words of Institution, Jesus invites us to “Remember”. The Sacrament of the Altar serves as a memorial to the suffering and death of our Lord and Savior. The Old Testament believers celebrated the Passover remembering the blood that saved them from the angel of death. We, following Jesus’ command remember the blood of the Lamb that saves us. St. Paul in his First Letter to the Corinthians reminds us that when we come forth to receive the Sacrament, we are bearing witness to Jesus’ death on the cross. As you prepare the Lord’s altar, reflect upon, ponder...remember what is being celebrated.

When we celebrate the Sacrament of the Altar, we come having repented of our sins to receive the forgiveness. Luther reminds us of this as he states that those who believe in the words, “given and shed for the forgiveness of sins”, has indeed, the forgiveness of sins. This benefit that comes in Jesus’ words and promises establishes the Lord’s Supper as more than just a memorial meal.

Renewal comes to us as we hear the pastor speak the words upon receiving the sacrament, “Depart in peace”. Because we have been forgiven in the blood of Christ, we have peace and our relationship with our God is renewed, all by His making. This renewal affords us the confidence that we are heaven bound and that frees us up for a life to the glory of God.

No matter what Midweek Lenten Sermon Series deployed in your respective congregations, the season of Lent will offer you a time for Remembrance, Repentance and Renewal. May almighty God richly bless you in your Lenten journey.

To God be the glory!!

Pastor Schroeder, Pastoral Advisor

### **MAUNDY THURSDAY AND THE STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR:**

Maundy Thursday is traditionally the service when the Altar is stripped. It is also the beginning of the Triduum (Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday), the three most sacred days usually viewed as a single liturgical event.

Maundy is from the Latin word *mandatum* which translated means commandment. Jesus gives us the “new commandment” in John 13:34-35.

“Love each other in the same way that I have loved you. Everyone will know that you are my disciples because of your love for each other.”



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**PRAYER**

**HEAVENLY FATHER,**

**WHOM TO KNOW IS TO LOVE  
AND WHOM TO LOVE IS TO SERVE  
GRANT THY BLESSING UPON OUR CONSECRATED SERVICE.**

**LET US SERVE YOU IN ALL HUMILITY AND REVERENCE.**

**ACCEPT THE WORK OF OUR HANDS IN THE CARE AND  
ADORNMENT OF YOUR SANCTUARY  
THAT YOUR HOLY NAME BE GLORIFIED  
THROUGH JESUS CHRIST, YOUR SON, OUR LORD.**

**AMEN**

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**DO YOU.....HAVE A QUESTION?**

**.....HAVE A SUBJECT YOU WOULD LIKE DISCUSSED AT THE ANNUAL MEETING ON APRIL 14<sup>TH</sup>?**

**.....HAVE SOMETHING YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE IN THE NEWSLETTER?**

**.....WANT MORE INFORMATION ABOUT WFLAG?**

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