



Lent: Holy Springtime of the Soul

By Megan McKenna



It's Lent and we begin again. Some say the word "lent" comes from the English stem that means "length" so it's a time when we are lengthened, stretched beyond our usual living and patterns. In religious terms we mature and grow into the full stature of what the Holy One intended that we become. Being "lengthened" is not so much something we do but opening ourselves so that the Spirit (with others) can inspire and inspirit us with grace, deeper faithfulness, and endurance. And it's a time to extend life, hope and good news (the gospel), and the presence of God to others, the poor, and those hungry for justice and thirsting for peace.

I wonder how the Holy Spirit is calling us to stretch and grow beyond our usual living and patterns? If we are honest this invitation is quite a tall order. The season of Lent has always been my favorite liturgical season. A time of quiet introspection coined with implementation of spiritual disciplines. During Lent I aspire to take a look at what I am consuming with the hope to see what is consuming me.

My hope for us as a community of faith is to pray for the willingness to be willing to place God first in our lives, if only for 40 days, excluding Sundays, and see how the Holy Spirit presents.

My fascination with silence, contemplative prayer, reading scripture and learning from spiritual teachers makes me wonder if I could have been born a monk? Honestly, I find immense comfort exploring the writings of our desert fathers and the life and practice of the monastic community.

There is no right or wrong way to journey through Lent. The important thing is that we 'show up' and participate in the adventure of growing in our relationship with God through Jesus Christ.

Please consider committing to attending weekly Lenten worship beginning on Ash Wednesday. Let's join together as community to explore the Lenten road together.

Sharing Christ's Service,
Pastor Gretchen

Women of the ELCA

OUR MISSION

Mobilizing women to act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ.

OUR PURPOSE

"As a community of women created in the image of God, called to discipleship in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in the church, the society, and the world."

FISHER LUTHERAN WELCA WINTER/SPRING 2025 BIBLE STUDY



"FAITHFULNESS IN THESE DAYS"

By Denise Rector

MARCH 19, 2025 @ 9:00 AM

Session Two - Acts 10-11: 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.



Gather
Zoom Bible
Study

You can also join the Gather Zoom Bible Study session each
4th Monday of the Month
7:00-8:00 PM
Zoom Meeting ID 830 8115 5921



Café (<http://boldcafe.org>), an on-line magazine, shares stories written by bold young adult women & friends who write about faith, relationships, advocacy and more. Readers and writers

of *Café* include pastors, seminary and college students, and other young adult women who use *Café* as a Bible study resource individually or with a group.

Join us for Monthly Dinner via Zoom

Join Boldcafe writers + friends for conversation and dinner the first Thursday of every month at 7 p.m. (CDT)!



PATCHWORK
PARISHIONERS

FISHER LUTHERAN QUILTING

March 10 & 11 / 24 & 25
9:00 am – 12:00 pm

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Gatherers Give with Glad Hearts

Fisher Lutheran Church

January – March Donations

will be gathered for...

Care & Share of Crookston, Inc

Simply purchase any items from the list to donate, return them to Fisher Lutheran in the gathering bag and they will be delivered to Care & Share.

- Diapers (All Sizes)
- Baby Wipes
- Pack & Play
- Baby Crib
- Deodorant (Men's & Women's)
- Men's & Women's Body Wash/Soap
- Shavers & Shaving Cream (Men's & Women's)
- Socks (Men's & Women's Sizes)
- Grooming Kits (Fingernail & Toenail Clippers)
- Women's Feminine Hygiene Products
- Women's Jackets
- Women's Hats & Gloves
- Bras, Underwear & Pajamas
- Men's 2 XL Clothing, Jackets, Hats & Gloves
- Larger Men's Boxers/Briefs & Pajamas

Care and Share of Crookston, Inc. is a 501(c)3 non-profit. There are many ways you could donate:

Online through GiveMN.org

Donate online at <https://www.givemn.org/organization/Care-And-Share>

Amazon Wish List

Getting an Amazon Wish List package always makes Care & Share smile and brightens their day! The generous donations they receive, including through the Amazon Wish List, help them better meet the needs of residents.

<https://urlgeni.us/amazon/CareandShare>

Purchases made from the Care & Share Wishlist will be shipped directly to the shelter. If you would like a receipt and/or recognition, please enter your full name in the "gift message" box upon checkout.

SAVE THE DATE

APRIL 26, 2025 Calvary Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall
1405 S. 9th St., Grand Forks, ND

Join the Valley Senior Living Foundation for the 10th annual decorated table event and the 2nd annual Quilt Auction.

- Donate a Quilt
- Host a Decorated Table
- Purchase a Seat for Brunch

For more information contact:
Kayla Gust at 701-787-7989 or
kgust@valleyseniorliving.org



2nd Annual Quilt Auction and 10th Annual Around Our Table



Event tickets will be available for purchase soon.

The Fisher church has a need for someone to fill a 3 year position as council member. Confirmed youth and young adults are encouraged to consider this opportunity to become actively engaged in directing the ministry of Fisher Lutheran. There is also an opening on the nominating committee which will become active prior to the end of the year. Please consider these invitations to serve in the mission of your church. Contact Pastor Gretchen or a council member if interested.

Council President
Reed Tinkham

Easter Lily Order Form For Fisher Lutheran

If you are interested in providing a Lily for Easter, Please fill out this form and place in the altar mailbox along with cash or check. Please make checks out to FISHER LUTHERAN with "lily" in the memo line

OR

Text Sheryl at 701-740-8481 with your order and she will collect money from you later.

All orders need to be in by Sunday March 30th.

Plants are \$15 each.

NAME _____

IN HONOR OF _____

IN MEMORY OF _____

Pastor Gretchen's Dad's (Robert B. Enoch) Funeral will be Tue. March 11th at Indiana Funeral Care. 10-12 PM Visitation with a 12 PM Service. Memorials may be sent to Best Friends Animal Sanctuary or The American Cancer Society. Thank for your continued prayers and support.

Pastor Gretchen Enoch

Are you a Thrivent member?

The Valley Senior Living Foundation is now eligible to receive donations of Thrivent Choice dollars designated by Thrivent members.

To give your Choice Dollars, follow these directions:

HERE'S HOW TO DO IT BY PHONE:

1. Call 1-800-847-4836 and state "Thrivent Choice".
2. State Choice Dollars when prompted.
3. Press 1 to direct Choice Dollars.
4. Enter or speak your social security number or Thrivent ID number.
5. Your call will then be transferred to an operator for completion.
6. Our organization name is listed as "Valley Senior Living Foundation", 1400 29th Ave. S., Grand Forks, ND 58201,

HERE'S WHO TO DO IT ONLINE:

1. Log on to www.thrivent.com
2. Sign in with your username and password or register for an account.
3. Once registered and signed in, select the "Direct Choice Dollars" button for Thrivent Choice on the right-hand side.
4. In the middle of the next page, type in "Valley Senior Living Foundation" in the "Organization Name" box, leave "City" blank, and click search.
5. Next to our name (listed as Valley Senior Living Foundation), click the "Direct Now" button. You will be able to assign all or part of your choice dollars to Valley. Recurring Thrivent Dollar designation is no longer an option and you must make the designation each year.
6. Click the "submit" button and your Thrivent Choice Dollars will be sent to the Valley Senior Living Foundation.

Thank You!



SERVE

Reaching out & serving others

- Prayer Chain
- Make hospital/nursing home visits
- Provide transportation
- Visit homebound members
- Wedding Coordinator
- Sunshine Ministry

Sending cards to those who are in need of support

Communication

- Writing letters/notes
- Photography
- Graphic Design
- Social Media
- Website support

Food Ministry

- Serving coffee before or after church
- Serving funeral lunches
- Help with special event meals
- Serve meals at homeless shelter

GROUPS I WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE IN

- Quilters & Lutheran World Relief Projects
- Women of the ELCA Bible Study
- Pastor Led Bible Study

ADDITIONAL GIFT(S) I COULD SHARE THAT ARE NOT LISTED:



2025

Fisher Lutheran Time & Talents Survey

Everybody has been blessed with gifts and abilities to share. This survey will help you discern how you want to use your talents at Fisher Lutheran. Please complete the form and place in the offering plate during the church service, the basket at the rear of the church, or mail back to Fisher Lutheran at:

Fisher Lutheran Church
209 2nd St. S.
Fisher, MN 56723

*We appreciate your prayerful
consideration of each item listed.*

NAME: _____
PHONE: _____
(Home) _____
(Cell) _____
ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL: _____
DATE OF BIRTH: _____
BAPTISM DATE: _____
BAPTISM LOCATION: _____



CONTACT US

Phone: 218-891-4632
Email: office@fisherbygland.org
pastor@fisherbygland.org
Web: www.fisherbygland.org

WORSHIP

How is God calling you to use your special gifts as we gather for weekly worship?

- Play organ/piano/instrument
- Sing solo or in a group
- Provide special music
- Tone chime choir
- Usher
- Reader
- Set-up or clean-up Holy Communion
- Serve Holy Communion
- Lead / Assist with Children's Sermon
- Live Stream & Visual Projection

NOURISH

Use your gifts to help nourish & grow people in faith & discipleship...Christian education & youth ministry

Sunday School

- Teach or assist with classes
- Lead Opening

Vacation Bible School

- Lead / Assist with VBS
- Communications
- Set-up and/or clean-up

Confirmation

- Teach or assist with classes

Youth Gr. 6-12

- Plan / Assist with youth activities

COUNCIL LEADERSHIP

- President
- Vice-President
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Council Member

COUNCIL COMMITTEES

- Board of Ushers
- Education Committee
Oversee & help develop education ministry
- Youth Committee
Help to plan the youth ministry of FLC

- Outreach Team

Evangelism, Stewardship & Social Concerns

- Music & Worship

Work with Pastor to foster the worship life of the congregation/hymn selection

- Property Committee

Oversee equipment, building & land

- Parsonage Committee

Oversee parsonage & land

- Nominating Committee

Recruit members for leadership positions

- Technology Committee

Maintain & update technology/Live Stream management

- Auditing

Review the financial statements

- Altar

Manage altar parameters, banners, communion

- Mutual Ministry

Strengthen the life & mission of Fisher Lutheran

OTHER LEADERSHIP ROLES

- Pathways Voting Member
- Sextons
- Synod Assembled Voting Members
- Conference Gathering Voting Members
- Valley Senior Living Delegates
- Funeral Committee
- Work Group Leader
- Organize Work Groups on 3-Year Rotation

MANAGE, MAINTAIN & SUPPORT

Many hands make light work

Office Support

General office support – mailings, bulletins, etc.

- Volunteer in church office
- Website management

Building & Grounds

Landscape Maintenance

- Weed control
- Flower care
- Pruning Bushes

General Maintenance

- Construction
- Electrical
- Painting
- Plumbing