



the scroll

a monthly publication of Sheridan Lutheran Church in Lincoln, NE

March 2017

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Upcoming Worship Series:

Trial and Error

MARCH 4 & 5: CAIAPHAS

JOHN 11:45-57 JOHN 18:28-32

Of all those present, Caiaphas was most responsible for Jesus' death. An insecure leader, filled with fear of losing his privileged position, he sought to remove any threat to his power.

MARCH 11 & 12: PILATE

ISAIAH 53:7-8, JOHN 18:33-38A, 19:8B-11

Pilate is the epitome of the struggle in this scene of trial and error. Sincerely trying to do the right thing, he falls woefully short. Compassionate in his encounter with Jesus, yet he is the one immortalized by name as responsible for Jesus' death. Pilate embodies some of our greatest fears.

MARCH 18 & 19: CLAUDIA

PSALM 118:5-9, MATTHEW 27: 19-25

Pilate's wife is not even mentioned by name in scripture and the reference to her is so small, but the emotional and spiritual response to her continues to touch us at the deepest part of our heart. To see your loved one make a terribly wrong decision and to be unable to stop it, but only watch from afar is an affliction we all dread.



Trial and Error

AS WE WALK WITH JESUS TO THE CROSS, the scene that we can most easily relate to is his trial. We have a hard time relating to praying in a deserted garden or being publicly executed by crucifixion. We can, however, relate to a trial. In today's world we can readily sense the concept of a rigged trial – one in which the accused stands little chance. Jesus' trial before Pilate contains intriguing characters. There is a sense that some are trying to be fair, but the outcome is so filled with error. When we ask ourselves, "How could this happen?" we begin by looking at those involved.

Each of us comes to Lent, this season of personal preparation for Jesus death, with different emotional responses. Everyone grieves in their own way, and watching Jesus die so personally "for me" brings our emotions front and center. Reflecting on Jesus' trial, we see that same range of human emotion in each character. It benefits us to look at each person and to understand his or her perspective.

Each week we will look at the trial and we will see the error of each person involved. We will hear their words through first-person portrayals, and seek greater understanding. We will relate to their experience and see how it touches ours. We will prepare for the reality that Jesus died for each of them, just as he died for us.

On Wednesdays during Lent worship will emphasize the forgiveness that Jesus brings. What better way to understand his forgiveness for us than by seeing how he might forgive those who wronged him on his way to the Cross? As we walk, we know that we are in solidarity with those that Jesus died to save others – even the most sinful. In that way, we will experience the full joy of Easter morn, as we gaze into the empty tomb.

Council Corner by Jeanne McClure, President



Jeanne McClure,
Council President

I grew up in a small, country church outside of Waco, Nebraska—if my family of six was absent on a Sunday, our church was without its pianist, Sunday School Superintendent and 15% of the congregation! Our small church needed our family; it needed our contributions of time, talent, and treasures. And our family needed our church—for worship, for community, for support.

Now my husband and I are raising our family in Lincoln, and have been members of Sheridan Lutheran for almost 10 years. I've often been asked what it is like to attend, and now to serve as

president of such a large congregation. My response is, Sheridan Lutheran is so much more than a church to me, it is family, just like the small church I grew up in! I enjoy being welcomed and involved in many areas of the church, and having the experience of spending time with my husband and my children in this amazing community. Over the years I have been excited to become more involved and delighted to give more of myself.

If there is something I wish for our Sheridan family, it is that we all take the time to really think about how the church needs us, as well as how we need the church.

If you have a baptism, birth, wedding, sympathy or other milestone to share, please call the church office at 402-423-4769.

We are happy to share your news with our church family in the monthly Scroll.

Births

Eden Noelle Parks daughter of Liz & Sean;

Rory Declan Behrens son of Megan & Grant.

Baptisms

Lewis Norman Hansen son of Chris & Andee;

Emma Cynthia Kohtz daughter of Tyler & Wendy;

Quinn Victoria Marae Roup daughter of Jay & Amy;

Henley Ann Scheer daughter of Ryan & Amber;

Jackson Steven Wichman son of Brant & Courtney.

With Sympathy

Greg (Rose) Bouvier on the death of stepmother Charlyn Bouvier;

Deb (Keith) Landwehr, Travis Landwehr, Troy (Joy) Landwehr on the death of mother/grandmother Verna Mae Dennis;

Lori Hampton, Raeann, Radd Bronder on the death of father/grandfather Joe Hampton;

Wes (Lisa) Colbert on the death of grandmother Ann Johnson;

Lila Witt on the death of sister Leona King;

Susan Rife, Jon (Katelyn Delaney) Rife on the death of mother/grandmother Ruth Ninneman;

Jeff (Kim) Woodcock family on the death of father Andrew Woodcock.

Congregational Potluck

Sun., Feb. 26; noon; Family Life Center
The entire church family is invited to a potluck! Bring your favorite main dish and salad or dessert. Join us as we welcome the new members from January & February.

WEDDINGS

Interested in having your wedding at Sheridan? Visit sheridanlutheran.org/weddings. Contact Susie, s.powell@sheridanlutheran.org, for scheduling or other questions.

HOSPITAL VISITS

Members of the visitation team make daily visits to Lincoln area hospitals to offer support, encouragement and prayer. Call the church at 402-423-4769 to schedule a visit. Please do not rely on the hospital to notify the church.

FOR THOSE GRIEVING OR PLANNING FUNERALS

Please contact Susie in the church office at 402-423-4769.

PASTORAL CARE

Contact the church office at 402-423-4769 during business hours: 8am-5pm; Monday-Friday. In case of emergencies (death of a loved one or if immediate assistance is needed) after hours call 402-423-4769 and press option 4.

FIRST STEPS BAPTISM CLASS

Baptism is a big event! The next First Steps Baptism Class is Sunday, Feb. 26 & March 26 at 11am in the church office Conference Room. This class is for those wanting to have their children baptized at Sheridan. You may schedule the baptism with the church office before attending the class; but the class is a prerequisite for parents prior to their child's baptism at Sheridan.

NEW MEMBER WORKSHOPS

Interested in joining Sheridan? The next New Member Workshop is Saturday, Feb. 25 from 9am until noon in the Great Room. Visit sheridanlutheran.org/new-member-classes or contact k.paisley@sheridanlutheran.org for more information.

Worship with us

SATURDAY

5:30pm

Watch the video of our condensed worship on local cable TV channel 13 on Thurs. at 7:30pm; Fri. at 12:30pm and Sun. at 11:30am.

HOLY COMMUNION is served on Saturday and 8:30am Sunday worship service in addition to 9:45 & 11am worships on the 2nd & 4th Sundays of the month. sheridanlutheran.org/worship-schedule

NURSERY HOURS

SUNDAY 8:30am – noon

WEDNESDAY 6:30-7:30pm

MISS WORSHIP? SERMON & SPECIAL MUSIC VIDEOS can be watched on Sheridan's Vimeo channel at vimeo.com/sheridanluthlnk.

SUNDAY

8:30, 9:45am; 11am

WEDNESDAY

6pm

Ash Wednesday

Wed., March 1; noon, 6pm & 7:15pm

Begin the season of Lent with worship including Holy Communion and Imposition of Ashes at noon, 6pm or 7:15pm. The noon worship service will be slightly shortened. Dinner will be served from 5-6pm; but there are no Wednesdays @ the Well education classes. Hospitality volunteers are needed for both worship services. Contact Brenda Carpenter via email at b.carpenter@sheridanlutheran.org to sign up.

Worship During Lent

Wed., March 8, 15, 22, 29 & April 5; 6pm

Join us each Wednesday in Lent for dinner, worship and education. Dinner is served from 5-6pm. Find each week's menu online at sheridanlutheran.org/wednesdays-the-well or in the weekend Bulletin. Lenten worship begins at 6pm and follows with education for all ages until 7:30pm.

WORSHIP SERIES continued from page 1

MARCH 25 & 26: BARABBAS – ISAIAH 53:1-6, MARK 15:6-15

In all likelihood Barabbas was within earshot of Jesus' trial. His subsequent release must have been a huge surprise to him, as he knew he was guilty. Jesus takes Barabbas's beating and he takes ours. How can we remain surprised and grateful for the one who bears our sin?

APRIL 1 & 2: CROWD – PSALM 22:1-8, LUKE 23:1-7, 13-25

The phenomenon of group demonstrations has returned to our nation. They embody both the best and the worst of our human nature. The Passion of Jesus forces upon us the question, "Where would I be in the crowd?" We would like to think we would be a defender of Jesus. Scripture points to the fact that we likely would not. How can we reconcile our timidity in the face of Jesus' sacrifice?

January 2017 Financials:

INCOME

General Fund	\$126,433
Mission	\$83,441
Sunday School YTD	\$228
Readiness Fund YTD	\$15,622

BUDGET

General Fund	\$153,500
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January 2017 attendance:

	WED	WKND	WKLY
Dec. 31/Jan. 1		666	666
Jan. 7/8	358	1,054	1,412
Jan. 14/15	323	761	1,083
Jan. 21/22	306	1,125	1,431
Jan. 28/29	289	1,119	1,408
2017 average		945	1,334
2016 average		1,044	1,348

In-Kind Donations

DONATION BINS in March benefit Haiti VBS. We are collecting gallon size re-sealable gallon size bags, kids scissors, any color sharpie markers, band-aids, fun tack, 13 gallon garbage bags and hand towels.

CLINIC WITH A HEART continually needs personal care items such as shampoo, toothbrushes, toothpaste and body soap.

BARNABAS COMMUNITY is in need of all sizes of pants and new bath or kitchen towels.

Cash donations are always welcome and needed to meet immediate needs. Please mark all financial contributions "Clinic with a Heart" or "Barnabas Community."

think about it.



SLC offers educational programs for children and adults. For a full listing of programs, visit us online at sheridanlutheran.org or call the church office.

Coffee & Conversation: College Aged Ministry

Wed.; 8:30pm; The Coffee House, 1324 P St.
Info: g.bouvier@sheridanlutheran.org or via
Twitter: @BouvierGregRev

Join Pastor Greg for coffee, conversation and fellowship each Wednesday night. No agenda, just a time for listening and sharing. This ministry is open to all post-high school young people, regardless if they attend college.

Sundays @ 11

Sundays, March 5 & 12; 11am; Conference Room
Info: Anne Kubr; ackubr@gmail.com
The Lord's Prayer is the topic in March. Come for one, or make this a regular part of your Sunday morning.

Men's Cancer Support Group

Mon., March 13; 6:30pm; Conference Room
Info: paul.ahrendt@totaltool.com or
e.bostrom@sheridanlutheran.org

Paul Ahrendt has had a long journey with cancer and he has faced it with faith and positivity. Paul will be leading a cancer support group at Sheridan for men who are going through their own cancer journey. This will be a time for wisdom, inspiration, encouragement and prayer in the company of other men. If you know a man going through cancer and he is not a member of Sheridan, he is welcome to receive the

Adult Education in Lent: Faith Stories



Experience the faith stories of our faith community

Wednesdays, March 8-April 5; 6:30pm; Room 413

Info: e.bostrom@sheridanlutheran.org

Everyone has a faith story and when faith stories are shared, both the speaker and the hearer are blessed. In the season of Lent, Pastor Eric will be asking individuals in our faith community to share their faith journey and how they've experienced God through their life. In a conversational style, Pastor Eric will interview a variety of people, helping them navigate their faith story. At the end, others will be able to ask questions bubbling up in their hearts. The spirit of this sharing will be safe, gracious, and respectful, honoring the gift the speaker shares. The hope is when we experience the God stories of others, we better recognize the God stories in our own lives.

support of this group. Please contact Paul Ahrendt or Pastor Eric with questions.

Men's Retreat "Mountain Moving Prayer"

April 21-22; Carol Joy Holling Camp
Cost: \$90/person

Info: e.bostrom@sheridanlutheran.org
This year's men's retreat will be led by Pastor Eric and Mark Walth with the theme of "Mountain Moving Prayer." Mark is a friend of Sheridan member, Craig Frederick, and has been a prayer retreat leader in Arizona for many years. We will gather at Carol Joy Holling between 5-6pm on Friday and end at 3pm Saturday. Cost includes all meals and double occupancy overnight stay. There is a Saturday only option for \$30. Invite a friend to come with you or invite your Grace Group to enjoy this retreat together.

Register online at sheridanlutheran.org/ministries/adults/mens-activities/mens-retreat by April 10.

Women's Retreat

May 5-6; Lied Lodge in Nebraska City
Register: sheridanlutheran.org/womens-retreat
As women we hold ourselves to impossibly high standards. We are never enough in our own eyes as we try to be all things to all people. Yet, in our Father's eyes we are enough just as we are. Retreat with other women as we allow Christ and each other to breathe new life into our lives and help us to realize all the ways we are enough with retreat leader Deidra Riggs. Invite your mothers, sisters or friends and sign up today. Retreat fees include retreat resources, overnight stay and three meals. Registration deadline is April 1.

Don't Miss It: Marker Fun Factory VBS

VBS

JOIN THE FUN

June 12-16
9am-noon

Sheridan Lutheran Church
70th & Old Cheney
402-423-4769

Registration & Information
sheridanlutheran.org/vbs



Vacation Bible School 2017

Mon.-Fri., June 12-16; 9am-noon

Info: sheridanlutheran.org/vbs

Vacation Bible School is a special, high-energy week in the summer specifically designed for children, age 4 – 6th grade! Children are invited to explore Bible stories through crafts, storytelling, games, snacks and more at Maker Fun Factory VBS. Curious kids will learn they are created by God and built for a purpose!

Each VBS participant will spend each day exploring God's love through activity stations in their crews. Every station is designed to reinforce the daily Bible Point in a hands-on, interactive way that keeps everyone engaged.

Register your child and sign up to volunteer online at the website above.

High School Youth Group

Info: c.mcdaniel@sheridanlutheran.org

An easy way for high school students to plug into Sheridan's youth ministry is youth group. Sheridan offers two different times to gather.

Wednesdays; 6:30pm; Great Room

High School youth meet during Wednesdays @ the Well education. Join Cameron for a time of Bible study, discussion and fellowship.

Sunday Youth Time

1st & 3rd Sundays; 11am; Great Room

This is an informal time of discussion and fellowship on Sunday mornings.

Upcoming Middle School Fellowship Events

Register: c.mcdaniel@sheridanlutheran.org

Come by yourself, or bring your confirmation small group. These are sure to be fun events. Please RSVP to Cam or sign up at the Welcome Center.

Karaoke Night-Sun., March 5; 4:45-6pm

A fun night for youth to join in fellowship. Bring \$5 for pizza.

Bowling-Sun., March 26

Sun Valley Lanes, 321 Victory Ln.

Meet us at Sun Valley Lanes for an afternoon of bowling. Cost: \$10 and includes shoe rental.

Faith Stepping Stones

Sat., March 4; 4th Grade: Baptism

Sat., March 25; Kindergarten: Seasons of the Church Year & I'm a Lutheran

Info: sheridanlutheran.org/faith-stepping-stones

As a family of faith, we celebrate faith milestones beginning with Baptism and going through High School graduation. Each workshop through grade 5 meets from 9:30am

– noon with a focus

on different faith milestones for children & their parents to experience together. Each milestone will be recognized during worship the same weekend as the workshop. To help with class sizes, please let us know you plan to attend by signing up online. Families may still participate regardless if you sign up. *Older children are able to attend workshops missed from previous years. Nursery care is available for siblings upon request.*



Family & Youth Spring Break Ski Retreat Departs

March 11-17

During LPS Spring Break several families and youth will travel to Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp for a family retreat and ski trip. This retreat is a wonderful time of faith formation and growth as well as a fun getaway. Please keep all of those participating in the retreat this year in prayer for participants to have a fun, safe and faith-filled week: Suzan Lund, Marcia Murray, Cam McDaniel, Terri Rockemann, the Colbert Family, Walsh Family, Blehm Family, Palmer Family, McClure Family, Nelson Family, Bostrom Family and youth: Lydia Bilz, Radd Bronder, Tristan Bonneau, Alec Champagne, Kirsten Eickhoff, Anna Keester, Zoey Moser, Rachel Rockemann, Whitney Scherer and John Strayer.

Youth to serve in Nashville this summer

Nashville bound youth

This summer ten high school youth and four caring adults will travel to Nashville, TN for an inner-city mission trip. While we are in Nashville we will spend time with various community partners like soup kitchens, homeless shelters and community centers. The group is making preparations to serve in Nashville through regular meetings, fundraising, prayer and fellowship events.

YOU CAN HELP THE YOUTH GET TO NASHVILLE

While each family is asked to contribute to the cost of the mission trip, fundraisers make it possible to keep experiences such as these affordable for families. Throughout the last several months, trip participants have been working to raise the needed funds for this trip and have almost met their \$7,000 goal.

To help raise the remaining funds, the youth will launch an Envelope Fundraiser on Sun., March 5. The Envelope Fundraiser is a great way to partner with the youth serving in Nashville. A board with individual envelopes numbered from 1 - 100 will be in the Great Hall throughout the month of March. Each envelope is an invitation to support the youth in this experience with the amount matching the number shown on the front. Each envelope will have information of a trip participant inside as a way to be in prayer for a trip participant. As always, thank you for your continued partnership with and support of the youth of this congregation.

Noisy Offering – Benefits Nuru School

The noisy offering from worship through May will benefit the purchase of maize for students at Nuru School in Tanzania

Connections Cafe

Each of the cafe's specialty drink gives \$.50 to a fund that helps families find a permanent home and get back on their feet again. Who knew that drinking your favorite cappuccino was such a blessing? Cafe' tips in March will go to support the gardens around Sheridan.

Help Needed: Barnabas Community Thurs. Night Meal

Thurs., March 23; 5:45 – 7:30pm

Info: r.bostrom@sheridanlutheran.org

If you would like to help serve the

meal for Barnabas Community, we are needing volunteers. Sign up online at sheridanlutheran.ivolunteer.com/#3 to help with these meals. This is a great opportunity for anyone, especially high school seniors to get some of the required GoPo hours!

Food Needs for Barnabas

Please bring the following non-perishable items to the table outside of the church office anytime: dry pancake mix, baked goods, large containers of oatmeal (not individual packets) and coffee.

Thrivent Box Action Teams

Info: thrivent.com/actionteam/index.html

Contact: r.bostrom@sheridanlutheran.org

If you are a Thrivent benefit member, you could make a huge impact supporting different fundraising,

service and community events at Sheridan, around the Lincoln community and beyond! Each Thrivent benefit member is eligible for two \$250 Box Action Teams each year. This seed money is able to cover the cost of materials needed for the service project, fundraiser, etc., at Sheridan or in the community. Previously, these teams have helped fund at least some portion of Vacation Bible School, Easter breakfast and cookie reception for Haiti VBS. It's easy, it's fun and it makes a big difference! Thrivent members, get involved today!

Join a 2017 mission team

Hurricane Katrina Relief

April 23-30; Slidell, Louisiana

Cost: \$470 for Thrivent members, \$770 non-Thrivent members

Info: Anita Sites: 719-252-7716

It has been almost 12 years since Katrina hit the Gulf Coast and the need to rebuild continues. You must provide your own transportation to Slidell. Cost includes all meals, lodging, cultural activities. Cultural activities will include a swamp tour, visit to a historic farm, crab boil, tour of Brad Pitt's "Make it Right Project" in the Ninth Ward and an evening in New Orleans. Deadline to register for this trip is March 10.

Habitat Global Village/El Salvador

July 8-16; Ahuachapán, El Salvador

Cost: airfare + ~\$800 for Thrivent members/\$~1,100 non-Thrivent members

Info: sheridanlutheran.org/global-village

El Salvador is both the smallest and the most densely populated country in Central America. The housing shortage affects more than 944,000 families and continues to grow as the population increases. This means that 6 out of 10 families live in inadequate housing. You can help, join this Habitat team today! Deadline to register is May 1.

New Event: Simple Fix™



Family Meal Prep Event

Sat., March 4; 1-3pm; Family Life Center

Cost: \$80/person for five meals each with four servings

Register: email k.paisley@sheridanlutheran.org by March 2; limit of 30 participants.

Register by March 2 to take part in HyVee's Simple Fix™ a program where you prepare a variety of delicious meals to be eaten during the week or kept in the freezer. All of the groceries, bowls and utensils, and chopped ingredients are provided for you. You put the meals together in freezer bags (meals serve 4) and take them home with cooking instructions so you can prepare and eat them at your convenience. Simple Fix™ provides people an easy way to prepare meals, in a social setting, allowing less time in the kitchen, less eating out, and more time with your family. Simple Fix™ is here to make your life easier, healthier and happier! Sheridan's Women's Ministry is hosting the event, but all are welcome to participate.

Sheridan Business Directory

Info: sheridanlutheran.org/businessdirectory

The Sheridan Business Directory is a way for folks to find skilled help from within the Sheridan community. Submission forms are available at the Welcome Center or online; the deadline is March 5.

A new ad fee is \$25; renewals are \$10. These fees simply help to cover printing costs. *Middle and high school students may advertise without charge.*

Cards & Games

Sun., March 5; 3-5pm; Room 111

Info: c.peterson@sheridanlutheran.org

Come enjoy card games followed by a potluck supper. Friends welcome and rides are available!

Holy Yoga Is Back for Lent

Thurs., March 2 – April 6; 6:30pm; Room 316

Register: sheridanlutheran.org/event-registration

Join Yoga instructor, Maranda Hoefs, for a six week Lenten series called "Jesus is Everything." Holy Yoga is experiential worship created to deepen people's connection to Christ. Our sole purpose is to facilitate a Christ honoring experience that offers an opportunity to authentically connect to God through His Word, worship, and wellness. Holy Yoga embraces the essential elements of yoga: breath work, meditation and physical postures. In all of these elements, Christ is the focus of our intention. New participants please register prior to attending your first

class. This class is free. All levels of yoga experience are welcome including beginners. Bring a yoga mat if you have one.

Confirmation Update

As fifty-six of our 8th graders prepare for Affirmation of Baptism on April 23; we will celebrate this faith milestone in the month of March with Recognition Ceremonies. These small group gatherings give parents and small group leaders an opportunity to affirm each child's spiritual journey and extend our prayers and desires for them in the next leg of their journey in high school and as young adults. As they prepare for full membership in the church and more acceptance of the responsibility for their own faith formation, we hope to affirm their giftedness and assets, build them up and recognize where they have grown personally, socially and spiritually through the Confirmation experience. These special ceremonies will take place in the Chapel each Wednesday during Lent at 6:50pm. Please continue to pray for our young people, their parents and small group leaders.

Join the Drama Ministry

Info: d.dames@sheridanlutheran.org

Interested in becoming involved in Sheridan's adult Drama Ministry for Lent? We will begin rehearsals for our Lenten and Holy Week dramas soon and are looking for high school students and adults to be actors, behind the scenes help, lighting, etc. All are welcome!

Camp Heart & Soul 2017

Mon.-Fri., June 26-30, 9am-noon

Camp Cost: \$30/participant

Info: a.barrett@sheridanlutheran.org

Save the date for this summer's music and drama camp for 1st-12th graders. Register your child online at sheridanlutheran.org/camp-heart-soul by June 11.

Contact us:

Phone: 402-423-4769

Email: info@sheridanlutheran.org

Website: sheridanlutheran.org

Church Leadership:

For a complete staff and council listing, please visit our website at

sheridanlutheran.org.

2017 EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

President: Jeanne McClure

Vice President: Darin Sperling

Secretary: Jessica Marshall

Treasurer: Rachel Ficek

STAFF

Senior Pastor: Greg Bouvier

Associate Pastor: Eric Bostrom

Associate Pastor: Rhonda Bostrom

Associate Pastor: Michelle Oetken

Deacon: Kathy Paisley

Volunteers: Brenda Carpenter

Director of Children's Ministries:

Julie Hestermann

Youth Ministries: Cameron McDaniel

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Jean Poppert

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Find sermons online:

sheridanlutheran.org/media-resources/sermon-podcasts

Publication Submissions

Bulletin submissions are due each Tuesday at 5pm. Please email submissions to Genny Straube at g.straube@sheridanlutheran.org.

April Scroll deadline is March 15 at 5pm. Please email submissions to Amy Wagner at a.wagner@sheridanlutheran.org.

Practicing Faith by Rhonda Bostrom

In your life, you may experience change, uncertainty, division and strife. From violence and unrest, to political disputes and family hardships, our struggles have challenged us to find ways to love God and our neighbors. In this time, many of us have asked how we are called to follow in the footsteps of Jesus.

Guided by the Holy Spirit, looking upward and leaning upon the presence of our Heavenly Father, these meditations are meant to help lead our daily tasks and actions as people of Christian faith.

The following are scripture passages and reflections meant for personal, family or small group devotions.

FOCUS ON two things: Love God, Love Neighbor. Matthew 22:37-40

PRACTICE YOUR FAITH: How can you focus on these two things in your personal life?

FOCUS ON love of all neighbors – even the ones you feel you are in opposition to. Find ways that bring unity and seek mercy.

Luke 6:35-36

PRACTICE YOUR FAITH: How can you love someone that you feel you are against? What steps can you take to seek unity?

FOCUS ON reserving judgment. God is the ultimate and righteous judge. Instead, seek understanding, including common ground for the common good. Luke 6:37-38

PRACTICE YOUR FAITH: How much time do you spend in judgment of others? What do you judge them on? How can you suspend these judgments so that you can be free to love?

FOCUS ON listening first, then speaking. Repeat: James 1:19-20

PRACTICE YOUR FAITH: How can you listen first, then speak in your daily life? How does someone know that you listened to them?

FOCUS ON being a person of light: Matthew 5: 14a & 16

PRACTICE YOUR FAITH: How can you be a light in the darkness?

FOCUS ON prayer is a refuge, a time to rest in our Lord's loving arms. Matthew 6:6

PRACTICE YOUR FAITH: Challenge yourself to give the same amount of time to praying and nurturing your relationship with God as much as you engage with social media, social commentary and the news. Take time to pray, pray for our communities, civic leaders and all whom we call neighbor.

FOCUS ON remembering the people who are vulnerable in our communities. James 2:18

PRACTICE YOUR FAITH: Is there someone you can call on and check-in on how they are doing? Reach out and remember them in a special way.