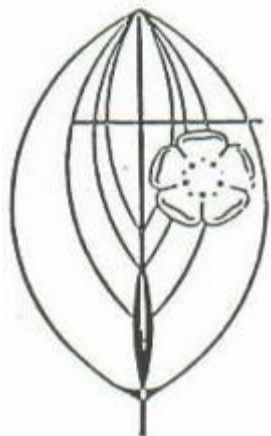


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NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS OF THE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE MESSIAH

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# Messiah Messenger

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## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

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### THE HOLY CATHOLIC CHURCH, THE COMMUNION OF SAINTS

THE REV. DR.  
MARTIN K. ERHARDT  
PASTOR

JANICE HOFREITER  
ORGANIST AND  
CHOIR DIRECTOR

THE REV. DR.  
JOHN MARK GOERSS  
PASTOR EMERITUS

In our Epistle Lesson for the Third Sunday after Epiphany (this year, Jan. 24), the apostle Paul writes to the Christians in Corinth:

“<sup>12</sup> For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. <sup>13</sup> For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body — Jews or Greeks, slaves or free — and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. <sup>14</sup> Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many” (1 Corinthians 12:12-14, NRSV).

Paul's words apply to congregations as well as to individuals. In the Apostles' Creed, we confess our belief in “the holy catholic church, the communion of saints.” You may have noticed that we recently changed the way those words of the Creed are printed in the bulletin. Instead of being printed as a discrete phrase, “the communion of saints” is now indented, reminding us that that's what the holy catholic church is. Though we often associate the word “catholic” with Roman Catholicism, “catholic” means “universal”.

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## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK (CONTINUED)

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Lutherans are evangelical – rather than Roman – catholics because the Gospel (in Greek, *euangelion*, which means good news) of Jesus Christ, rather than allegiance to the bishop of Rome, is what holds us together.

This coming Lent, we'll have the chance to increase our awareness of the church catholic by hearing pastors (and one vicar/seminarian) from neighboring LCMS congregations. At four of our five Wednesday Evening Prayer services, a visiting pastor will offer the pastoral reflection (homily). I will be the liturgist for all the services at Messiah except for March 16, when I will be the liturgist and preacher at St. Peter Lutheran Church in Hopewell Township and Pastor Stephen Gewecke from St. Peter will be the liturgist and preacher at Messiah.

All of the pastors will be reflecting on the theme of *Giving Up*, bearing in mind that giving up things for Lent is a means and not an end. The goal of renunciation is to receive more fully the abundant life God offers us. Each pastor will communicate that differently, and we can affirm our membership in the body of Christ by learning to appreciate those differences.

I look forward to embarking on this Lenten adventure with you!

Pastor Erhardt



**Visit our website to listen to audio recordings of Sunday Sermons.**  
**<http://www.princetonlutheranchurch.org/services.html>**

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## CHURCH CALENDAR

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### LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICES

**Ash Wednesday, February 10**

7:00 PM Holy Communion  
with Imposition of Ashes

### Subsequent Wednesdays in Lent

**February 17—March 16**

6:00 PM Soup and Salad Supper  
7:00 PM Evening Prayer (LBW p. 142)

### HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES

**March 20**

10:30 AM Palm Sunday

**March 24**

8:00 PM Maundy Thursday

**March 25**

8:00 PM Good Friday Tenebrae

**March 27**

10:00 AM Easter Sunday  
(note the 10:00am service time)

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**Thursday, February 4, 7:00 PM**

Executive Board Meeting

**Sunday, February 14, 9:00 AM**

Adult Forum will begin a six-week Bible study on Sunday, Feb. 14: *The Book of Job: Making Sense Out of Suffering*, by Reed Lessing, pastor of St. Michael Lutheran Church, Fort Wayne, Indiana, and former professor of Old Testament at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis. All are welcome. Please join us in the parish building lounge!

**Thursday, February 18, 7:00 PM**

Prayer Shawl Meeting

**Friday, February 19, 6:00 PM**

ISI Monthly Friendship Dinner  
Fellowship Hall

## LENTEN SOUP AND SALAD HOSTS NEEDED

We're planning a 6:00 PM soup & salad supper on each of these Lenten Wednesdays: February 17, 24, and March 2, 9, and 16 (no supper on Ash Wednesday). Thanks to generous volunteers among us, we have hosts for all the dates except March 16. If you are able and willing to host the supper on March 16, please sign up on the sheet in the back of the nave. Feel free to pair up with someone else and split the work. Hosts bring enough soup, salad, and bread to feed 20-30 people. Food costs can be reimbursed (submit receipts). Paper goods, butter, and beverages will be provided. **We can still use volunteers to help the hosts set tables before each supper and clean up afterward (mainly washing dishes). If you can help with set up or clean up, please contact the host directly or the church office.**

## UPCOMING READINGS IN FEBRUARY

EPIPHANY			SECOND	GOSPEL
YEAR B	FIRST READING	PSALM	READING	READING
Transfiguration Sunday <i>February 7, 2016</i>	Exodus 34:29-35	Psalms 99	2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2	Luke 9:28-43a
Ash Wednesday <i>February 10, 2016</i>	Joel 2:1-2, 12-17	Psalms 51:1-17	2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10	Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21
First Sunday in Lent <i>February 14, 2016</i>	Deuteronomy 26:1-11	Psalms 91:1-2, 9-16	Romans 10:8b-13	Luke 4:1-13
Second Sunday in Lent <i>February 21, 2016</i>	Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18	Psalms 27	Philippians 3:17-4:1	Luke 13:31-35
Third Sunday in Lent <i>February 28, 2016</i>	Isaiah 55:1-9	Psalms 63:1-8	1 Corinthians 10:1-13	Luke 13:1-9

Readings taken from website: <http://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/>

## SANCTUARY RENOVATION

We have refinished floors and new carpet in the sanctuary! With careful stewardship of rental income and you generosity, we were able to pay for that project without a separate fundraising campaign. The work was done by Flemington Commercial Flooring. Special thanks to the Sanctuary Beautification Committee and in particular to Esther Fischer, who spearheaded the renovation effort.





## MESSIAH'S MANTLES: PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

### The Prayer Shawl Group Hostess Schedule

#### February—May 2016

February 18: Karen Hartl

March 17: Lottie Coffin

April 21: Eva Groves

May 19: Doris Schubert-Gerwers

Please check the church website  
[princetonlutheranchurch.org/shawl.html](http://princetonlutheranchurch.org/shawl.html)  
for date and time changes.

Contact any one of the knitters if you know  
of someone in need or if you would like to  
request that a shawl be knit for a loved one.



Doris (above) finished her 101th and 102th shawl in December.



We welcomed Sandra Metzger (right) to our group of knitters.

### MILDRED'S PRAYER

We praise you Lord for giving us these hands  
To knit these shawls  
To comfort the sick, the weary,  
The many friends and neighbors  
Who do not have loved ones to be by their side.  
May they find comfort in the work that we do  
and the love we send.

Amen.

## POTLUCK AND CHRISTMAS CAROLS ON DECEMBER 5TH



Photo courtesy of  
Yosola Ogunyele.

## RALLY FOR LIFE IN TRENTON



Ryan Spaude and James Haynes, students at Princeton University, braved the cold to attend the Jan. 22 Rally for Life at the State House in Trenton with Pastor Erhardt.



## SNOWY SUNDAY, JANUARY 24

After 22 inches of snow, a big thank you goes to our grounds-keeper David Olszewski, who had us plowed out and ready for worship on Sunday morning.





*Snowy Sunday (continued)*



We few, we happy few! The faithful remnant who braved snow and ice to get to church on Jan. 24

Elizabeth thinks the snow is delicious



# February 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
	1	2	3 7:15 Catechism Class 7:30pm Choir	4 7pm Executive Board Meeting	5	6
7 9:00 am Christian Education 10:30 am Holy Communion	8	9	10 Ash Wednesday 7pm Holy Communion with Imposition of Ashes Choir after service	11	12	13
14 9:00 am Christian Education 10:30 am Holy Communion	15	16	17 6pm Soup & Salad 7pm Lenten Evening Prayer 7:50pm Choir	18 7:00pm Prayer Shawl Meeting	19 6:00pm ISI Dinner	20
21 9:00 am Christian Education 10:30 am Holy Communion	22	23	24 6pm Soup & Salad 7pm Lenten Evening Prayer 7:50pm Choir	25	26	27
28 9:00 am Christian Education 10:30 am Holy Communion						



THE LUTHERAN CHURCH  
OF THE MESSIAH

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RETURN SERVICE  
REQUESTED

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