



WELCOMING AND ACCEPTING ALL PEOPLE ALONG A JOURNEY OF FAITH AND SERVICE.

“Welcoming and accepting all people” – is a reminder of our Welcome Statement and genuine hospitality, in the present tense so it is always relevant. “*along*” – is an invitation to join together side by side. “*journey of faith*” – implies that arrival is a myth; we are always growing “*service*” – is a natural outcome of faith and inseparable from our commitment to discipleship.

LENTEN SEASON

The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 22, and continues until Easter Sunday, April 9. Although we will be focused on the sale of the church and vacating the premises before March 31, it will be even more important to stay connected and focused on the foundation for our kinship, which is our God of Resurrection and Transformation! So we have chosen a Lenten theme we believe will provide meaningful worship while being minimally demanding in preparation and time commitment.



“**Lookin’ for Love**” is the title of this year’s theme, produced by Worship Design Studio. The description reads:

“The Christian scriptures offer many images of where love, grace, forgiveness, righteousness, and healing can REALLY be found. And it is not in the “usual” places. Isn’t it as true of us today as it was of the scriptural authors? Don’t we often look for wholeness and happiness in places that offer only temporary “good feelings” and satisfaction? Lent is a wonderfully reflective time to reassess where we are searching for meaning and purpose. We’ll move through stories of Jesus to find out who offers the “real deal.”

In addition to weekly Sunday worship scriptures and themes, devotional material will be provided for **Spiritual Life Groups** which will consist of optional small groups of people who meet periodically at their convenience to discuss responses to the topics and share prayer and faith stories. Look for a sign-up sheet in the narthex at PLC to participate.

Ash Wednesday — Looking for Love Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 and Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Week One — Look for the Resister Psalm 32 and Matthew 4:1-11

Week Two — Look for the Helper Psalm 121 and John 3:1-17

Week Three — Look for the Thirst-Quencher Exodus 17:1-7 and John 4:13-14

Week Four — Look for the Shepherd Psalm 23 and John 9:1-41

Week Five — Look for the Liberator Psalm 130 and John 11:1-45

Week Six — Look for the Unexpected Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 and Matthew 21: 1-11

Holy Week — Love Looks for Us Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19 and John 13:1-17, 31b-35

Easter — Love Wins Jeremiah 31:1-6 and John 20:1-18

Please watch the weekly CareMail for updates and other ways to enhance your Lenten experience.

EVENTS/OTHER



ADULT FAITH FORMATION

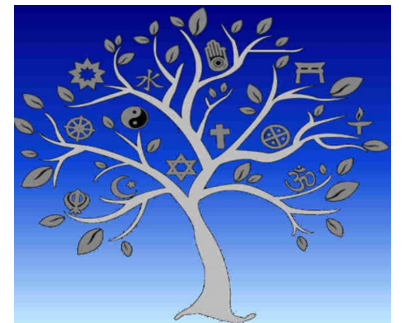
Sunday morning discussion of the book of Job will continue through the first two weeks of February. A new study for Lent will be introduced on February 26.

VISITORS' CHAT AND CHEW

Pastor Colleen and the Elders will sponsor a light meal and informal conversation for recent visitors on Sunday, February 12 immediately following worship at PLC. We will share briefly about our church vision, core values or denominational affiliation and answer questions regarding church membership or participation. We know it's Super Bowl Sunday, so we promise not to linger! An RSVP to Pastor Colleen will be appreciated so we are prepared with sufficient food. pastor@southjoplindisciples.org

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

The Joplin Interfaith Coalition will host another Bake Sale on Saturday, March 4 in the early afternoon. Watch for details on items to donate or purchase in the coming CareMail emails.



CROSSLINES CHALLENGE *EXCEEDED*

Thank you, generous SJCC donors for the socks and soup you contributed in January! We asked for 50 pairs of adult socks and 50 cans of soup to warm the residents of our community who are in need, and you brought 68 cans of soup, 12 ramen noodles, and 8 other cans of food. You also brought 76 pairs of warm socks, which are very appreciated because they vanish as quickly as they are placed on the shelves.

We hope you will be equally generous in the February challenge for Souper Bowl of Caring, with your favorite team playing in the Super Bowl! Bring your items to PLC and we'll report the final tally after the game; hopefully a good outcome for both Crosslines and the team you cheer on (if you have a voice left after last Sunday's game).

Reminder: our next scheduled day at Crosslines is Thursday, February 23.

Sign-Up



We have all been enjoying the sweet treats in the Welcome Area at Peace Lutheran Church. We need volunteers to bring in some of these tasty little bits to share with everyone, so a sign-up sheet will be available on the table along side the name tags. Thank you!

RELOCATION UPDATE

With the congregation's approval of the sale of 1901 S. Pearl, a lot needs to be done before we close on the sale March 31. We are retaining possession of the two rental homes and the adjacent half lot.

Our worship space at PLC is secure through May 9 as our board approved extending the rental agreement with Peace. Representatives from the Relocation Task Force and Church Board are meeting with Peace Lutheran representatives to discuss what a potential longer-term agreement might be.

In the meantime, the task force is looking diligently for other potential sites -- either to buy or lease, but working within our current finances. We likely will have interim office space, and will likely occupy one of the rental homes. We also need to locate storage space, and are working with Peace about possibly moving over our organ.

Ministry chairs have been asked to start going through remaining items in the church and determine what needs to be stored or what can be sold or trashed. The Board in February will discuss holding another rummage sale.

A final worship service is being planned for Sunday, February 19 at SJCC, but until that time we still have a few groups using the facilities and some scheduled events in Fellowship Hall, so please do not impede the use of the Fellowship Hall, kitchen, and other main areas in the process of clearing out rooms.

Relocation Task Force, Jim Cullumber, Chair.

FINAL WORSHIP AT SJCC



We are planning a final worship service in the sanctuary on Sunday, February 19 at 10:30 AM to give thanks for the space that has been home to this congregation for over a century, and share in memories and music. Other regular Sunday activities will be cancelled (no Sunday School, Worship and Wonder, Fellowship Dinner) in order to allow everyone to be present who wishes to be there. The service will be informal and open to the public. No SJCC activities will be held at PLC on February 19. Please invite those whom you believe might appreciate the opportunity to bid farewell to the building.

AMAZON SMILE DISCONTINUED



Amazon has indicated that it is discontinuing their charitable giving program known as Amazon Smile, which means that after February 20, we will not be able to incur a percentage of proceeds made from your online purchases. Over the years we have received several hundred dollars which has gone to local outreach, and are grateful to all who participated. We will receive a one-time donation equal to two months average contribution, plus any proceeds from purchases made through February 20. Again, thanks to all who participated. Every little bit has helped!

Mini Sermon Series: "Sensing Incarnation"

Feb. 5 "Taste" John 2:1-10 and 1 Peter 2:2-3
Feb. 12 "Hearing" John 5:25-29 and
Romans 10:14,17



Prayer Requests

Medical:
JoHelen Umphenour; Charles Wilson

Sympathy:
Calvin Nichols; Susan Wheeler; Clarence Chartier; Larry Nauser (Fitterling)

Military:
Michael Crofford; Corey Irwin; Josh Robb; Dylan Theil; Gary Wald

Ongoing:
Connie Abraham; John Asher; Judy Ballard; Dani Bowen (Meadows); Gloria Brady (Abraham); Ellen Broglio; Janet Burns; Veronica Carnahan; Nic Castlebury; Samantha Catey; Betty Coan; Dayton and Daislee Cohen; Wes Davenport; Lois Demaree; Rebecca Doerflinger (Hall); Bailee Evans; Margie Fitterling; Kyle Ford (Wolfenbarger); Mary Gilmore; Alyxis Hefty; Patt Hinds; Darius Hughlett (Wilson); Daryl Hughlett; Roland Hughlett; Bethany James; Betty Kemp; Sam Knudtson; Lamley Family; Shirley Martin; Betty McKelvey; Sara Metts; Missionary families (Huff, Reaves, Wilson); Arlene Nash; Nancy Nauser (Fitterling); Bethany Newman; Jim Owen; Matthew Paulda; Josh Petty; Reese Prater; Todd Prater; Cameron Ransom; Sharon Reeve; Raquel Sapien; Brady, Baylee and Calvin Shafer; Sue Smith; Lou Starks; Richard Stiles; Connie Sullivan; Mike Tesh; Roger Traver; Michelle Vorhees; Tova Wallace-Lee; Karen Patchin Watson; Charles Wilson; Birdie Woods; Mary Lou York, and all unspoken requests.

Other:
SJCC Relocation

Global Ministries Focus:
Feb. 5: Costa Rica
Feb. 12: Ghana
Feb. 19: Thailand
Feb. 26: Marshall Islands

<u>RESPONSIBILITIES</u>	
<u>Elders</u>	
Feb. 5:	Jim Cullumber
Feb. 12:	Mike Fitterling
Feb. 19:	Darlene Coit
Feb. 26:	Betsy Wheeler
<u>Diaconate</u>	
Feb. 5:	Communion Prep—Sherry Crumbliss and Charlotte Quarles; Homebound—Joe Prater
Feb. 12:	Communion Prep—Megan Bever and Connie Abraham; Homebound—Tom Wheeler
Feb. 19:	Communion Prep—James Roof and Raquel Sapien; Homebound—Don Smith
Feb. 26:	Communion Prep—Judy Akeman and Les Davenport; Homebound—Tom Hamm
<u>Camera & Sound</u>	
Feb. 5:	Jenn Reaves and Ken Moser
Feb. 12:	Judy Schneider and Don Smith
Feb. 19:	Sandy Meadows and Darryl Coit
Feb. 26:	Judy Schneider and Ray Reaves
<u>Sunday School (K thru 5)</u>	
Feb. 5:	Karen Kemp and Daniell Sanders
Feb. 12:	Leanna Carrol and Anita Frieze
Feb. 19:	No SS
Feb. 26:	Jessica Faucett and Karen Kemp
<u>Children’s Worship & Wonder</u>	
Feb. 5:	Karen Kemp and Taylor Reaves
Feb. 12:	Karen Fitterling and Judy Schneider
Feb. 19:	No CW&W
Feb. 26:	No CW&W



<u>Birthdays</u>			
1	Terry Plossl	18	Emma Eckhardt
4	Carolyn Thiel	19	Sherry Crumbliss
6	Karen Fitterling	19	Kenton Foster
7	Lexi Prater	24	Kairyk Curry
9	Julia Foster	28	Darryl Coit
<u>Anniversaries</u>			
14 Mark & Liz Millard			
28 Chad & Dennis Peterson-Sloan			

FEBRUARY 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 9:30 am– Noon CWF (PLC)	2 12:30 pm Clergy Cluster (SJCC) 6:00 pm JHS Bass Team (SJCC)	3	4
5 PLC 9:30 am SS 10:20 am Fellowship 10:45 Worship/ CW&W 4-6 pm Family Con- nection (SJCC)	6 Pastor Col- leen Out of Office 6:30 pm NA Mtg. (SJCC)	7 6:00 pm Wor- ship Team Mtg. (SJCC) 6:30 pm NA Mtg. (SJCC)	8 7:00 Choir (PLC)	9	10	11
12 PLC Souper Bowl of Caring Ends 8:00 am Elders 9:30 am SS 10:20 am Fellowship 10:45 Worship/ CW&W Noon Chat & Chew 4-6 pm Family Con- nection (SJCC)	13 Board Reports Due 6:30 pm NA Mtg. (SJCC)	14 6:30 pm Board Mtg. (SJCC) 6:30 pm NA Mtg. (SJCC)	15 6:00 pm Emancipation Cmt. Mtg. (SJCC) 7:00 pm Choir (PLC)	16	17	18 7:00 am-11:00 am JHS Bass Team Pancake Bkft. (SJCC)
19 SJCC 10:30 am Final Wor- ship Service at SJCC 4-6 pm Family Con- nection (SJCC)	20 6:30 pm NA Mtg. (SJCC)	21 6:30 pm NA Mtg. (SJCC)	22 6:00 pm Ash Wednesday Worship (PLC) 7:00 pm Choir (PLC)	23 9:45 am— 2:00 pm Crosslines	24	25
26 PLC Week of Compas- sion Offering Lent 1 8:00 am Elders 9:30 am SS 10:20 am Fellowship 10:45 Worship/No CW&W 4-6 pm Family Con- nection (SJCC)	27 6:30 pm NA Mtg. (SJCC)	28 SJCC Pack- ing Deadline 6:30 pm NA Mtg. (SJCC)				