



PROCLAIMER

Christ Lutheran Church

March 2026

Worship

**Sunday Morning
Holy Communion**
8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Livestream
10:30 a.m.

Christian Education
for all ages
9:30 a.m.

Office

Monday - Thursday
8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
210-822-3394
office@clcah.org

From the Pastor . . .

In the 5th chapter of the Acts of the Apostles, we read of an occasion when Peter and other leaders of the early church found themselves in conflict with the authorities of their time. Those authorities took action against Peter and the other believers, having them arrested, though “. . . an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out” (Acts 5:19). Later, authorities questioned Peter before the council, saying:

We gave you strict orders not to teach in this (Jesus’) name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching... But Peter and the apostles answered, “We must obey God rather than any human authority.” (Acts 5:27-29)

There come times in everyone’s life when one must decide. It may be a routine, ordinary decision, like what clothes to wear or what organization to support, or even momentous decisions such as whom to marry or a career choice. Such decisions arise in every person’s life, regardless of one’s place in a community.

We all also will confront very consequential decisions in our moral and ethical decision-making. People have often asked me as their pastor, “. . . how can I know for sure?”

Peter’s experience in the holy city of Jerusalem in the 1st century remains as instructive for us in the 21st century as when it was recorded in Acts: “. . . We must obey God rather than any human authority.” Sounds easy, but again, how can one know if one is doing God’s will?

We find help in our moral discernment from Paul, in his writing to the Corinthians: “I am determined to know nothing among you except Christ and him crucified” (1 Cor 2:2). Over the years I have found this helpful in my own moral decision-making. In the midst of moral dilemma, I ask myself, “Is this decision for my own advantage or gain, or does it reflect the grace of the risen Christ? Am I promoting myself for personal advantage, or am I guided by fidelity to the message of the cross, the message of selfLESSness and the love of neighbor?”

In retrospect, we all have seen self-interest or the distractions of worldly concerns take over, with arguments such as “This is how the ‘real world’ works.” We all have felt fear take charge, freezing decision-making when we find ourselves in a moral dilemma. We may take so long in deciding that our silence *becomes* a decision – to do nothing. Doing nothing in face of injustice is to be complicit with the powerful over the vulnerable.

Lent is the perfect time to remember Peter’s assertion that in our life’s moral process, “We must obey God, rather than any human authority.” Human authorities can err, especially in matters of justice in the world. As for me, I am determined, in times of stress and division, to “know nothing except Christ and him crucified.” To love my neighbor, to re-focus away from self-interest toward service – this is the way of the cross and reveals the salvation of our souls.

- Pastor H

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CORNER

Faith University in March, 9:30 a.m., Fellowship Hall

- **March 1 – San Antonio Food Bank** - We look forward to hosting Eric Cooper, President and CEO of the San Antonio Food Bank. He will discuss with us the vital role faith-based partnerships play in the fight against food insecurity in our community. The Food Bank serves 145,000 neighbors every week, and we can be a part of helping! Congregations can support that effort in a variety of ways by acting as distribution points, organizing service opportunities and mobilizing volunteers, donating food or financial resources, and advocating for the reduction of hunger in our communities. Join us for an update on the work of the Food Bank and to find out how you can be part of making a difference.
- **March 8, 22, 29 – Entering the Passion of Jesus** - Jesus' final days were full of risk. Every move he made was filled with anticipation, danger, and the potential for great loss or great reward. Jesus risked his reputation when he entered Jerusalem in a victory parade. He risked his life when he dared to teach in the Temple. His followers risked everything when they left behind their homes or anointed him with costly perfume. We take risks as we read and re-read these stories, finding new meanings and new challenges.

In the book *Entering the Passion of Jesus: A Beginner's Guide to Holy Week*, author, professor, and biblical scholar Dr. Amy-Jill Levine explores the biblical texts surrounding the Passion story. She shows us how the text raises ethical and spiritual questions for the reader, and how we all face risk in our Christian experience. Pastor Leslie will lead us in conversation around this work, utilizing the book and a series of videos Dr. Levine produces to accompany it. Feel free to purchase and read the book if you would like, but it isn't necessary for the class.

- **March 15** – All Church Service Project in the Fellowship Hall, read more on Deacon Lisa's Mission and Outreach Team Report on page 6

Children & Youth Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.

We encourage our children to participate in our Sunday School programs here at CLC. All ages will meet in the children's chapel for a message and song followed by breakout groups by age. Sunday School is led by our faithful and amazing church members along with the Director of Faith Formation, Blythe Boeck.

Preschool (3 years old - Kindergarten)

We will jump into the wonder of learning the Bible stories through the Godly Play curriculum. Patti Lynch, Beth Whitten, and Deacon Lisa Diana will be the lead Sunday school teachers for this class.

Elementary (1st - 5th Grades)

This year, students will be exploring the great stories of the Bible through storytelling and art. Rhonda Barsalou and Natalie Stone will lead storytelling through the Old Testament, focusing on a different story each week, and Suz Braaten, Scott Merkord, and Elizabeth Yust will lead the art component.

Confirmation (6th - 8th Grades)

Confirmands will meet with Ms. Blythe to dive further into the information discussed within each confirmation unit. They will have group discussions on topics covered and explore more about their faith.

If you have any questions about Sunday School or are interested in volunteering, please contact Ms. Blythe at blythe@clcah.org.

NOTE: There will not be Sunday School on March 8 because of Spring Break, but Adult Education will take place in the Fellowship Hall.

LENT AT CHRIST LUTHERAN - THE GOOD NEWS IS . . .

Wednesdays in Lent

Noon (February 25 and March 4, 11, 18, 25)

- 12:00 p.m. – Lunch & Learn in the Fellowship Hall – We will dive deeper into our Lenten theme, The Good News is . . . using poetry, art, song, scripture, and more!

Evening (February 25 and March 4, 18, 25):

- 6:00 p.m. – Child-Led Worship in the Fellowship Hall
- 6:15 p.m. – Dinner in the Fellowship Hall

Join us on Wednesday nights during Lent for a special time of intergenerational worship. We will gather in the Fellowship Hall at 6:00 p.m. to sing together, hear a poem based on the week's memory verse, and experience a dramatic retelling of that verse.

This informal service lasts about 15 - 20 minutes and is followed by a soup supper for all who would like to stay and share a meal.

We would love for you to be part of this meaningful ministry! If you're interested in participating in a skit, please contact Ms. Blythe.

Special thanks to Sharon Wiedemann Ruiz for providing music for these services.

NOTE: No worship & dinner Wednesday EVENING March 11, due to Spring Break

Evening worship throughout the Wednesdays of Lent will focus on families acting out stories of the Good News found in scripture with prayers and singing to round out the services.

Lenten Offering - Clarity Child Guidance Center

Saving the Lives of Children Suffering from Mental Health Issues

Clarity Child Guidance Center is saving children's lives, helping families, and safeguarding the fragile mental health of children ages 3-17 from the frightening abundance of mental health crises that are befalling our community's children.

Significant emotional, behavioral, and learning challenges can impede a child's ability to learn, to make friends, to participate in school and to succeed. Anxiety, depression, ADHD, and behavioral disorders affect ordinary functioning and are impacting millions of American youth. Common signs may include withdrawal, mood changes, sleeping and eating disruptions, academic decline, and more.

Terrified parents find compassionate, professional care for their children at Clarity Child Guidance Center, the only nonprofit mental health treatment center for children in South Texas. Through their affiliation with the UT Health Science Center, they provide a full continuum of care on their 8-acre campus in the South Texas Medical Center. They offer a myriad of healing opportunities regardless of a family's ability to pay. A mom whose son suffered many mental health crises during his teen years said, "To see your child go through this feels like walking around with a broken limb." Because of early intervention at Clarity and subsequent intensive treatment, that young man is now in college and pursuing his dreams.

Clarity is reaching children in their formative years, using proven practices and treatments to ensure children get the help they need to avert a lifetime of crises. Clarity Child Guidance Center provides crisis services, inpatient treatment, partial hospitalization, and outpatient treatment.

Christ Lutheran is honoring Clarity by donating the entirety of our Wednesday Lenten Worship offerings to their critical work, which is only partially covered by Medicaid, and offered at no cost to the uninsured.

The Good News is our monetary gifts can make a difference in the life of a child and family dealing with the distress and heartbreak of serious mental illness.

HOLY WEEK AT CLC

Palm Sunday Services will be held March 29 at 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. We celebrate Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem even as it points hauntingly to his ultimate betrayal, trial, crucifixion, and death. Palm processional and Holy Communion at both services with Pastor H preaching.

Maundy Thursday Service is a solemn and beautiful worship on April 2 at 7:00 p.m. Deacon Lisa will preach. This service, which includes Holy Communion, leads us to reflect on Jesus' Last Supper with his disciples. Here, gathering at the table and watching as Jesus kneels to wash the disciples' feet, we receive the absolution that was denied us on Ash Wednesday and the great commandment from Jesus that we love one another as he has loved us.

Good Friday Tenebrae Service on April 3 at 7:00 p.m. will be a unique combination of scripture and music led by our talented and dedicated music staff and Sanctuary Choir.

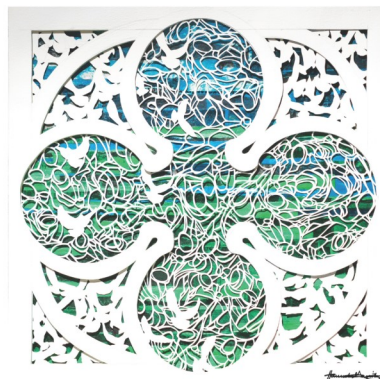
Easter Services will celebrate our Lord's triumph over death through resurrection on Sunday, April 5, at 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! The services are nearly identical, although the 10:30 a.m. service will include a children's message. Pastor Leslie will preach at both services, and both will include Holy Communion. Don't forget to bring flowers to place on the Resurrection Cross! An Easter Breakfast will be offered between the services, beginning at 9:15 a.m. Please join us as we celebrate!

Resurrection Flowering Cross

Christ Lutheran bursts into color with flowering crosses on the church lawn on Easter morning. The flowering cross is an especially striking and beautiful way to symbolize the new life that emerges on Easter morning after Jesus' death on Good Friday. The rough-hewn wood symbolizes the heavy cross on which Jesus died. The contrast between the starkly bare cross and the colorful transformation, when it is adorned with living flowers, is a dramatic, visual representation of the new life we celebrate. On Easter morning, we ask you to bring cut flowers for each member of your family (and more if you'd like to share) to place on our flowering crosses. It's a way our whole congregation can participate in and visualize the gift of Easter Sunday. For our visitors (and those of us who forget), we'll have extra flowers.

Easter Breakfast & Easter Egg Hunt

Please join us for our annual Easter Morning Breakfast at 9:15 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall on April 5. Carolyn Dufelmeier will prepare fruits and pastries and requests contributions of breakfast casseroles from the congregation. If you can help by bringing a breakfast casserole, please sign up using the QR code. There will be fellowship for all and an Easter Egg Hunt for children up to fifth grade beginning at about 10:00 a.m. "Hop on over" for a morning of food, fellowship, and fun!



EASTER
WORSHIP
APRIL 5
8:30 & 10:30 A.M.

EASTER
BREAKFAST
APRIL 5
9:15 A.M.

EASTER
EGG HUNT
APRIL 5
10:00 A.M.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MINISTRY

Angelicus (pre-K) & Gloria Choirs

Our children's choirs sang beautifully in worship throughout the month of February, and they are excited to be singing in worship in March at 10:30 a.m. worship as well. Angelicus Choir will sing on Sunday, March 15, and we will hear from Gloria Choir on Sunday, March 22. Come and listen to their songs as we support our youngest members who are growing in faith, service, and song. **Please note that during Lent, our rehearsals shorten to half an hour (5:30 to 6:00 p.m.) to accommodate time for worship at 6:00 p.m. with dinner following at 6:15 p.m.**

Spring Schedule

- Rehearsals run every Wednesday through May 13, except for the following Wednesdays:
- March 11 – Spring Break
- April 1 – Holy Week

Angelicus Choir will sing in Worship at the 10:30 a.m. service on:

- March 15
- April 12
- May 10 (Mother's Day)

Gloria Choir will sing in Worship at the 10:30 a.m. service on:

- March 22
- April 26
- May 10 (Mother's Day)



Confirmation Ministry Wednesday, April 8, 6:15 - 7:30 p.m.

Our next Wednesday evening Confirmation Class is April 8 from 6:15 - 7:30 p.m. upstairs in the Education Wing. There will be pizza at the start if you want an easy dinner while we learn and grow in our faith together. We will be studying Jesus' passion and resurrection. Reminder to Confirmands: Don't forget to be working on your Worship Notes and Service Hours.

MISSION AND OUTREACH

Mission and Outreach Team Report

In the parable of the Lost Son (Luke 15:11-32), also known as the parable of the Prodigal Son, the younger son leaves for a distant land, squandering his wealth in wild living, and finds himself being mistreated as a non-citizen during a time of famine: "He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything." He comes to his senses when he realizes that if he returns home to his father to live as one of the servants he will at least have enough to eat. And so he does, and he receives a homecoming much more extravagant than he is expecting.

San Antonio Food Bank: We are so thankful for all the hands that have reached out this past month volunteering at the Food Bank. Thanks to Blythe Boeck for helping to organize and recruit some of our families. We had 10 adults and nine children who joined many other volunteers to sort boxes of food to be distributed to those in our city who are food insecure. The Food Bank coordinator reported that we packed 20,000 lbs. of food that day that would be used to make 16,000 meals. It was inspiring to see all the volunteers who came out to express love for their neighbors. We will hear more about the mission of the Food Bank on **Sunday, March 1**, during the adult education hour, from Eric Cooper, CEO of the San Antonio Food Bank.

Care Kits for the Unhoused: Our first initiative to stem from our participation in the Congregational Collective Tapestry of Care project will be collecting items and assembling care kits for our unhoused neighbors on **Sunday, March 15, during our 9:30 a.m.** Sunday school hour between services. This will be a great opportunity for us to work together and then individually deliver these gifts to people we encounter who are living in difficult circumstances, without a home or without resources that many of us take for granted. What will their response be when we hand them a care kit with items they can use? Maybe they will feel seen and recognized in their humanity. Maybe they will recognize our humanity. If you are interested in learning more about the Tapestry of Care project, please contact Deacon Lisa Diana at lisa@clcah.org.

Help for Immigrant Families in Crisis: Thank you to all who responded to the needs of a large family that recently arrived here in San Antonio. We were able to collect donations as well as gift cards. We were overwhelmed by the generosity that you showed and continue to show. During a time when many are being left behind, we have a fund to help walk alongside immigrant families. Through community partnerships and other congregations, the Mission and Outreach team receives requests for families and individuals that have fallen through the cracks and are experiencing crises. Thanks to your gifts, we are able to lend support to those needing emergency financial assistance for food, rent, gas, and other critical necessities. We also have given to organizations that work with these families. If you would like to contribute toward this fund, your monetary contributions are graciously welcomed and desperately needed. Please contact our co-chairs, Paul Pfeifer or Lisa Diana, lisa@clcah.org.

When the father saw the prodigal son coming home, he felt great compassion for him, saying, "This son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found." That is a reason for celebration.

- Deacon Lisa Diana



MISSION AND OUTREACH

Care Kits for Our Unhoused Neighbors

Many of us are uncomfortable in the presence of extreme suffering. Homelessness qualifies as extreme suffering. When we stop at an intersection and see a homeless person asking for help, we often turn away, not knowing what to do. It's awkward and leaves us feeling uneasy and perhaps ashamed.

Several members of our congregation are involved in The Congregational Collective, an outreach ministry hosted by the H.E. Butt Foundation with a mission to help people with mental health challenges to find community and support from local faith communities without stigma.

After attending several sessions and meeting with congregational leaders of all faiths, Christ Lutheran is launching its first initiative – distributing care kits to our homeless neighbors.

We hope to make this a congregation-wide activity, involving all interested members, including our Sunday School children, as well as our Day School children. This month, we'll be collecting items (listed below) to fill the care kits, and on Sunday, March 15, all ages will meet in the Fellowship Hall to fill the bags. We are asking that members who wish to participate take one or two of the care kits and keep them in their cars to hand out when they see a homeless person or someone who appears to be suffering. In addition to the items listed here, we will include a list of available resources and a handmade card from our congregation's and Day School's children, reminding folks that "Jesus loves you, and so do we."

We hope you'll report back to us. How did it feel to engage with a stranger in this manner? How did the recipient respond? What more can we do? If you'll share your stories with us, we'll share them with the Congregational Collective and our own parish members. Please share your stories with Jan Schubert Norris, janschubert@satx.rr.com.

Care Kit Items

We hope you'll help this ministry by shopping for the following items and bringing them to the CrossWay throughout February, labeling them, "Care Kits."

- 8 - 12 oz. bottled water
- Travel size toothpaste and toothbrush
- Healthy, non-perishable snacks (granola bars, peanuts, crackers, jerky, dried fruit)
- Small packets of tissues
- 2 to 4 ounce containers of hand lotion
- 2 to 4 ounce containers of hand sanitizer
- \$5 H-E-B or Wal-Mart gift cards

Our CLC Benevolence Partners: Booklet Available

For several decades, Christ Lutheran has designated 10% to 20% (currently 20%) of our Sunday worship offerings to non-profit local, national, international, and Lutheran ministries. This commitment leverages your gifts and their impact – enriching and transforming the lives of individuals served by non-profits dedicated to missions that extend the reach of our care, compassion, and Christian love. The CLC Benevolence Team meets throughout the year to review, vet, and survey the needs, achievements, and effectiveness of the benevolence partners we honor with your gifts. The Benevolence Team has produced a small booklet that introduces each of these benevolence partners with a summary of their mission, provides contact information for those who may wish to lend additional support or find out more, and shares news of volunteer opportunities for individuals and groups. You may pick up a copy of the 2025-2026 booklet in the CrossWay to learn more about the impact of your giving and Christ Lutheran's commitment to this outreach.

SMALL GROUP CORNER

Joseph's Sons, Monday, March 2, 6:30 p.m., Wild Barley

Please join us for a meal at Wild Barley Kitchen and Brewery, 8403 Broadway, for fellowship and discussion on topics impacting men today.

Read Through the Bible in a Year, Mondays, 7:00 p.m., Zoom

Christ Lutheran Church invites all interested persons to Read Through the Bible in a Year with Pastor H. Classes meet via zoom every other Monday, March 2, 16, and 30 at 7:00 p.m. Contact the church office for the full list of daily readings. All are welcome in this read through, regardless of membership at CLC or any community of faith. Here is the Zoom link to access the class: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2461346872>

CLC Book Club, Wednesday, March 4, 6:00 p.m., Primrose House

Book Club meeting nights have been changed to the first Wednesday each month. Please join us in the Primrose House on Wednesday, March 4, at 6:00 p.m. to discuss bestselling novel, The Correspondent by Virginia Evans.

Living in Interesting Times, Thursdays in March, Fellowship Hall

Living in Interesting Times will meet every Thursday in March from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The group will not meet April 2, Maundy Thursday. Chloe Kempf, an attorney for the American Civil Liberties Union, has received permission to be our guest presenter March 19. She will discuss the ACLU and recent litigation regarding freedom of speech and other First Amendment cases.

All are welcome to attend. No one is to be quoted outside the group. Nothing is to be done to harm others, especially the vulnerable.

- Rev. Dr. Paul Ziese

Men's Breakfast Group, Tuesday, March 10, 7:00 a.m., Bill Miller BBQ

All men of the church are invited to a short Bible study on the upcoming Sunday gospel. Breakfast tacos and fellowship at Bill Miller BBQ located at 410 and Nacogdoches Road.

Lunch Bunch, Thursday, March 19, 12:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall

Lunch Bunch invites seniors to gather for lunch on the third Thursday of each month. We will meet on March 19 at noon in the Fellowship Hall for food and fellowship. Many thanks to Carolyn Dufelmeier for continuing to host these fun, friendly get-togethers.

Lucy Circle, Sunday, March 22, Parlor

The Lucies will meet in the CLC Parlor on Sunday, March 22. Our usual third-Sunday meeting date is changed so we can participate in the church-wide assembling of Care Kits for the Unhoused on Sunday, March 15, at 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Then on March 22, the Lucies will meet during the adult education hour to discuss respected NY Times columnist David Brooks' final column, "Time to Say Goodbye." It is an excellent, poignant, thought-provoking read. If you need a copy, let me know.

- Jan Schubert Norris

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

An Update from Ms. Blythe

I am grateful for the youth of Christ Lutheran and excited to share a few highlights and upcoming opportunities with you.

Our Confirmation students continue to grow in faith and understanding through thoughtful lessons and meaningful discussion. In our recent session, we focused on Jesus' teaching, miracles, and sayings. It is a joy to walk alongside them during this important step in their faith journey.

We recently put those lessons into action during our service project at the San Antonio Food Bank. Our families helped sort donations, pack food boxes, and prepare items for distribution to folks in need. It was a joy to be given the opportunity to serve our community together.

The middle and high school youth had wonderful success with their fundraiser for Souper Bowl of Caring. Thanks to the generosity of our congregation and the hard work of our youth, they raised \$1,360 to help fight hunger with a donation to Agape Ministries. This is an incredible achievement and a powerful reminder of what we can accomplish when we come together for a meaningful cause.

Looking ahead, we have several exciting events planned. We will host an all-ages service project on March 15 during the education hour, offering a chance for families and congregation members to serve side by side packaging care kits for our unhoused neighbors. During Lent, families will help lead portions of our Lenten services on Wednesday evenings, creating a special opportunity for youth and parents to participate in worship together. And for a fun team-building experience, we are planning an FX3 escape room trip where youth will collaborate to solve puzzles and challenges in an exciting, interactive setting.

Thank you for your continued support of our youth ministry. It is a blessing to see our young people grow in faith, service, and fellowship.

- Blythe



UPCOMING CAMPS

Vacation Bible School at CLC

Splash!

Diving into God's Gift of Water

Register
Now



Christ Lutheran Church VBS

June 15 - 19, 2026

9:00 A.M. - Noon

\$50 per child

Aftercare available for an additional cost

PRAISES TO:

- Our youth for fighting hunger in San Antonio by participating in the Souper Bowl of Caring. Donations went to Agape, a local non-profit, right in our community
- Those who donated to the San Antonio Food Bank and who participated in the service project there on February 14
- Gloria and Angelicus Choir singers and their parents for bringing young, inspiring voices to our worship services
- The attendees of the Women's and Men's retreats for growing in faith while building up our Christian community. A special thanks to the leaders: Tessa Baden, Cyndi Manes, and Joe Diana.
- The Congregational Collective Team Members for hosting a day-long workshop event for the entire community and for organizing our care kits project for the homeless
- Sarah Loyd for giving an excellent Temple Talk on Texas Lutheran University and lifting up our partnership with them

STAFF

The Rev. Leslie Price
Senior Pastor

The Rev. Howard Stendahl
Pastor

Blythe Boeck
Director of Faith Formation

Dana Ferraro
Director of Day School

Ainslee Ford
Office & Property Manager

Deacon Lisa Diana
Minister of Mission & Outreach

Dr. Dan Long
Director of Music Ministry

Jeff Hammack
Organist

Mary Patino
Youth Choir Director

Sharon Wiedemann
Youth Choir Accompanist

Sam Tenorio
Custodian

Jesus Garcia
A/V Tech

Carolyn Dufelmeier
Event Coordinator

Clara Tenorio
Nursery Attendant

CONGREGATION COUNCIL

Michael Fischer
President

Bryan Woods
Vice-President

Jeff Timm
Treasurer

Paul Pfeifer
Secretary

Karen Corder
At-Large Member

James Ehler
At-Large Member

Edna Robbins
At-Large Member

The Rev. Leslie Price
Senior Pastor

The Rev. Howard Stendahl
Pastor



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Christ Lutheran Church

GROWING TOGETHER

6720 Broadway
San Antonio, TX 78209
clcah.org
210.822.3397



Wednesdays during Lent

Lunch and Learn Series
12:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall
Feb. 25, Mar. 4, 11, 18, & 25

Soup Supper and Worship
6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall
Feb. 25, Mar. 4, 18, & 25