



Lake Superior Light

Volume XXXV Issue 3

March 2015

Lake Superior Christian Church

Can you believe it is March already? For most of the U.S. that means warmer weather and springtime. I'm learning that here in the U.P. it means maybe a big snow or two and back and forth between messy cold weather and warmer weather. But one thing that we all experience during this time is hope. Hope that warmer weather is on its way and will soon be here!

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Hope is a great thing, and often is the only thing that keeps us going through the last weeks (months?) of winter. Hope is also the one thing that keeps us going when life gets hard. Hope is a characteristic that God develops in His kids (us) through the struggles and disappointments of life. Below is part of an article from the "Encyclopedia of Bible Facts," on Hope. (All verses from ESV)

Hope

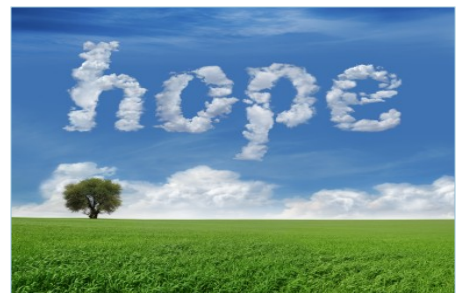
One of the three main elements of Christian character (*1 Corinthians 13:13* ¹³ *So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.*) It is linked to faith and love, and is opposed to seeing or possessing (*Romans 8:24* ²⁴ *For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees?*). "Hope is an essential and fundamental element of Christian life, so essential indeed, that, like faith and love, it can itself designate the essence of Christianity (*Hebrews 10:23* ²³ *Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful.*). In it the whole glory of the Christian vocation is centered (*Ephesians 1:18* ¹⁸ *having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints;*; *Ephesians 4:4* ⁴ *There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call.*)" Unbelievers are without this hope (*Ephesians 2:12* ¹² *remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world.*). Christ is the actual object of the believer's hope, because it is in his second coming that the hope of glory will be fulfilled (*Titus 2:13* ¹³ *waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ.*). It is spoken of as "lively," i.e., a living, hope, a hope not frail and perishable, but having a perennial life (*1 Peter 1:3* ³ *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.*).

~ Encyclopedia of Bible Facts

May the **HOPE** of springtime keep you warm. May the **HOPE** of eternal life through Jesus Christ keep you walking by Faith.

I love you all, Don

PS: Remember to sign up for a Life Group this week!





10 February 2015

The Missions Committee met on 10 February 2015 with three members present. We had 21 newsletters and 9 "thank you" letters to review. Many of these updates are on the mission board for you to check out. Please take time to look at the mission board to check on those you support.

New business concerns: It is with great regret, that we have to inform you that we no longer support Danai Chowwiwat. There were some internal family problems that were not resolved to our satisfaction. If you have questions, contact Bob Hodges, and I will try to answer them. Please pray for the Chowwiwat family. We are continuing to support SEACM for the two children's hostels in Thailand.

Two of the young ladies that we have supported with one time gifts in the past have decided to get married; Erika Johnson and Sarah Koutz. One marriage has taken place and the other upcoming.

Because of your faithful giving to missions, we were able to help the following individuals and organizations: one missionary from LSCC with support; Prison Fellowship for evangelism with inmates; Mountain Mission school for expenses; Wycliffe Bible Translators for Bible translation in Russia and surrounding countries; Loren and Kensey Ledebuhr with furlough travel expenses; His House to help fund the NMU mission trip to Mexico to build a house.

We also had a letter from a Bridge of Hope child we support. One of the committee members corresponds with this child.

Thanks so much for supporting missions. The committee thinks it is very important to help those who have committed their lives to serving God. God loves you and so do we. You are welcome to attend any mission meeting.

The Committee



February Statistics

	<u>February 1</u>	<u>February 8</u>	<u>February 15</u>	<u>February 22</u>
Worship Attendance	336	301	264	357
Bible School Attendance	74	60	49	69
Operating Fund Budget	\$14,205	\$14,205	\$14,205	\$14,205
Operating Fund Offering	\$12,607.40	\$15,355.88	\$10,150.33	\$15,181.98



March Ministry Highlight - Building Ministry



2014 was a busy year in the building at L.S.C.C. We saw many people come in and out of our doors between our many services, Upward Basketball, VBS, Room at the Inn, and the many other events that we hosted.

As always, a building that is used as much as ours is, needs some repairing every once in a while.

In 2015, the building ministry has already been busy replacing light-bulbs, painting offices, repairing bathroom fixtures, stopping leaky faucets, and various other odd jobs.

From the painters, to the plumbers, to the many light-bulb changers, I want to say thank you

to all of those who have volunteered their time and talents in these various areas to help keep LSCC in top notch condition.

As with any ministry, we can always use more volunteers, so please contact the church office or me with any questions about serving God in this capacity.



In His service,
Les Milligan,
Building Deacon

Quiz the Minister

What is the difference between Christianity and religion? - Anonymous

We are introduced to the term Christian in the early developmental stages of the church. Prior to the name Christian, the people who believed in Jesus were commonly referred to as followers of The Way. However, when the persecuted church arrived in Antioch, which would be the equivalent of our modern day New York city, the name Christian was applied. The Latin suffix *ian* means “belonging to the party of.” In mockery, some of the pagan citizens of Antioch joined this Latin suffix to the Greek name “Christ” and came up with *Christian*. The name is found only three times in the entire New Testament: Acts 11:26; 26:28; 1 Peter 4:16.

Unfortunately, the word *Christian* has lost a great deal of significance over the centuries and no longer means “one who has turned from sin, trusted Jesus Christ, and received salvation by grace” (Acts 11:21–23). Many people who have never been born again consider themselves “Christians” simply because they say they are not “pagans.” After all, they may belong to a church, attend services somewhat regularly, and even occasionally give to the work of the church! But it takes more than that for a person to become a child of God. It takes repentance from sin and faith in Jesus Christ, who died for our sins on the cross and rose again to give us eternal life. Following that, we are invited to share in Jesus’ baptism and wisdom for the rest of our life.

“...is the term Christian a label or a lifestyle?”

I'm sure that most of you have been asked the question, “what religion are you”? In my opinion, it is an innocent question but the answer to that question seems to deal more with a set of rules and regulations.

It's not often that I'm asked what relationships I am in and this leads me to my point. The word “relationship” implies something deeper than a list of do's and do not's. It implies love and action, regular communication, and genuine fellowship. For me, the difference between Christianity and religion comes down to this. Is the term Christian a label or a lifestyle? Are we a fan or follower?

~ Brandon



Library Feature - DVD Review of “Ragamuffin”



“Ragamuffin” was an inspiring and encouraging film about the life of Christian artist, Rich Mullins (**Awesome God** and many other great songs). This is a story of overcoming childhood adversity, leading to adult addiction. It is a story of redemption and forgiveness and the freedom only Jesus Christ can bring.

I have heard different views on this film, but we feel that it depicts our sinfulness, our “baggage” and our need for the unconditional love and grace of God. Rich Mullins was an overcomer in Christ and followed the true calling God had for him.

This film was riveting. The acting was top notch and the story is one that will remain with you for a long, long time, especially if you or someone you love has been affected by alcohol abuse and/or a “father wound”.

It is rated PG13 due to some adult themes and smoking in the film.

We highly recommend this DVD!

~ Pete and Chris Corkin

~ March Schedules ~

GUEST CENTRAL



March 8	9: 30 Marcia Waters & Autumn Trudeau	11:00 Mike & Sarah Paternoster
March 15	9:30 Cheryl Schram & Wendy Leukuma	11:00 Kelly & Mitch Koetje
March 22	9:30 Cheryl Schram & Rita Noordyk	11:00 Tom & Judy Rogers
March 29	9:30 Marcia Waters & Doug Boyle	11:00 Brenda Bickler & Valerie Wrightman

Usher Schedule

March 8		March 15	
<u>1st service</u>	<u>2nd service</u>	<u>1st Service</u>	<u>2nd Service</u>
John Bolm	Jim Argeropoulos	Joel Asher	Dale Eltman
Robin Brock	Steve Barr	Fred Baij	KC Holder
Lou Praznik	Jim Beran	Gary Bovan	Mike Paternoster
Tim Tebby	Brian Johnson	Doug Boyle	Tom Rogers
Randy Yelle	Jim Kantola	Bob Hodges	Jordan Takalo
Ben Sebaly	James Smiljanich		Tim Takalo
			Jeffery Trudeau
March 22		March 29th	
<u>1st service</u>	<u>2nd service</u>	<u>1st Service</u>	<u>2nd Service</u>
John Bolm	Jim Argeropoulos	Joel Asher	Dale Eltman
Robin Brock	Steve Barr	Fred Baij	KC Holder
Lou Praznik	Jim Beran	Gary Bovan	Mike Paternoster
Tim Tebby	Brian Johnson	Doug Boyle	Tom Rogers
Randy Yelle	Jim Kantola	Bob Hodges	Jordan Takalo
Ben Sebaly	James Smiljanich		Tim Takalo
			Jeffery Trudeau

Again, thank you for serving and for continuing to help us give the best we can to God every week!

Please remember to check in with Gary Bovan each week you are here to serve, so he knows you are here.

If Gary is not in church on a Sunday, please check in with Randy Yelle. Don't forget to wear your nametags! If you don't have one, please contact Sara in the church office and she will make one for you. Thank you!

Greeter Schedule

<u>March 8</u>	<u>March 15</u>	<u>March 22</u>	<u>March 29</u>
9:30 - Barb Koski, Cindy Asher, Walt Aho, Jackie Baumler, Susan Lane, Terry Copp, Steve Buteyn	9:30 - Barb Koski, Cindy Asher, Walt Aho, Jackie Baumler, Susan Lane, Terry Copp, Steve Buteyn	9:30 - Barb Koski, Cindy Asher, Walt Aho, Jackie Baumler, Susan Lane, Terry Copp, Steve Buteyn	9:30 - Barb Koski, Cindy Asher, Walt Aho, Jackie Baumler, Susan Lane, Terry Copp, Steve Buteyn
11:00 - Jim Kent, Brian and Shirley Johnson, Susan Bovan, Carl Johnson, Steve Buteyn	11:00 - Jim Kent, Duane Du Ray, Kayla Argeropoulos, Carl Johnson, Steve Buteyn	11:00 - Jim Kent, Brian and Shirley Johnson, Susan Bovan, Carl Johnson, Steve Buteyn	11:00 - Jim Kent, Brian and Shirley Johnson, Duane Du Ray, Carl Johnson, Steve Buteyn

EVENTS in MARCH

**Women's Event Night
Wednesday, March 18
6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**

Women.....come and worship!

A night of singing praise to our King, alongside sisters-in-Christ, thanking Him and praying for:

- LSCC leadership and Search teams
- Body of Christ
- Social injustice
- Personal concerns

Come and lay your burdens down and lift your praise up!

Ephesians 5:19-20, "Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your hearts to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Child care is available **if you sign up in Connection Central**
Questions? Call Sarah Schober at 284-1051
or email: women@lsc.tv



Men's Ministry

Men's Breakfast

Saturday, March 7th

8:00 am

Great food & fellowship

In Rooms 31 & 33

ATTENTION MEN: The men's every other Monday night study meeting at 6:30 p.m. will be starting a new scriptural study on the book Heaven, by Randy Alcorn, on March 9th. For further information, contact Howard Schram at 346-9907, at the first service on Sunday, or at schrams10364@gmail.com

ROOM AT THE INN: L.S.C.C. will be opening our doors to the homeless of Marquette during the week of March 15-22, 2015. We need your help to staff the 4-hour shifts, provide food and supplies, and pray for our mission of compassion and care. Sign-up sheets can be found in Connection Central. If you have any questions, please call Mary Stunkard at 360-8700.

March Messages

March 1

Game Changers: The Good Samaritan
~Brandon Morey

March 8

Game Changers: The Master & the Vineyard Workers ~ Dave Celeskey

March 15

Game Changers: Judging Others
~ Brandon Morey

March 22nd

Game Changers: The Sabbath
~ Dave Celeskey

March 29th

Palm Sunday
~ Dave Celeskey



The 2015 Women of Faith Conference is coming to St. Paul, MN the weekend of October 16 & 17 and all ladies are invited to attend! A charter bus will be go-

interested, and it will leave early if we have enough ladies that Friday morning. It is an overnight trip so a hotel stay will be included in the final cost. The total cost will be determined by the

number of ladies that attend (\$250-300). A de-

posit of \$85.00 needs to be paid by Sunday, March

22nd if you would like to go. Because tickets are

already on hold, checks should be made out to

Chris Corkin, with "Women of Faith" in the

memo line. Please contact Chris Corkin at 228-6584

for more information or sit their website:

ENOFFAITH.COM



On Saturday, March 21st from 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., join us for a fun, casual day of scrapbooking, crafting or playing games. Check out the posters around the church for more information or contact Deb Fuller at (906) 360-0818.



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basically means 40. It is a time approximately 40 days before Easter where many orthodox traditions focus on Jesus, and specifically, try to recreate a small sample of His wilderness experience before He began His ministry.

Immediately the Spirit impelled Him to go out into the wilderness. And He was in the wilderness forty days being tempted by Satan; and He was with the wild beasts, and the angels were ministering to Him.

Mark 1:12-13

When Jesus was in this 40 day period, He fasted. He had no bread to eat, no luxuries. Modern day practitioners observe Lent by giving up some luxury or by fasting themselves. They replace that item in their life with another one, usually prayer. Prayer is something that we can do regardless of our circumstances for sure, but we are given that extra reminder and focus on prayer during Lent, when we acknowledge what worldly thing we are sacrificing in honor of Christ and remembrance of Him. Our small loss helps us to focus on what Jesus went through.

A valid objection to Lent by many today is that this practice doesn't appear in the Bible itself. That is, the New Testament church did not practice Lent that we know of. The same could be said for Christmas as well, if you want to follow that objection. Yes, Jesus was in the desert for 40 days (as well as many other Biblically significant events that occurred in a 40 day period), but in regards to fasting, Jesus made it clear that His followers were to wait until He was gone to fast.

John's disciples and the Pharisees were fasting; and they came and said to Him, "Why do John's disciples and the disciples of the Pharisees fast, but Your disciples do not fast?" And Jesus said to them, "While the bridegroom is with them, the attendants of the bridegroom cannot fast, can they? So long as they have the bridegroom with them, they cannot fast. But the days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast in that day. Mark 2:18-20

For myself, I feel it is a wonderful spiritual practice to set aside a time of 40 days and allow it an amount of reverence and reflection. Prayer and sacrifice are not the only ways that one could observe this practice. You could engage in a special study, commit to memorize a portion of scripture, or engage in any creative activity that would help you to focus on the "reason for the season", and that being the sufferings, trials, and temptations that Jesus faced while here on earth. Those are themes any Christian in any denomination can resonate with, so I'm "borrowing" the practice. :) Is Lent a requirement of the faith? Not at all. It is simply a marking of time that can aid us in our spiritual direction and thoughts. You could apply the same practice to any time of the year if you wanted to. As I prepare for Easter, as I re-live the experiences of Christ through the gospels, and as I contemplate the need for a Savior and my own sin, I find joy in knowing that there is a community of believers around the world honoring Christ in similar ways.



Why I am Honoring Lent (and Why I Don't Need to be a Catholic to do so) by David Celeskey

Did everyone get a Paczki (pronounced "pooch-key") the other week? Those delicious, sugary, fat-filled pastries grace our bakeries but once a year, on a day called Fat Tuesday, which marks the day before the Lenten season as observed by various groups of Christians around the world. The term "lent" derives its meaning from Greek and Latin numbering, and