



The Spire

The Newsletter of
Christ Lutheran Church - Wantagh, NY
Website: www.CLCWantagh.org

March 2025

A Note from Worship & Music

Greek philosopher Heraclitus is said to have been the first to say, “The only constant is change.” We have changes in our weather, in the seasons, in our lives and families and in the life of the church. A major change is the arrival of our shepherd, Pastor Sprowls, who thankfully came as our Interim Pastor!

We should expect seasonal changes in our Sunday liturgy. However, we at CLC have not deviated from two settings of the liturgy that date back to the 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*.

Pastor has already brought us up to date on some of our liturgy. The Christmas, Epiphany, and Easter seasons are festive times in the church, times when it is generally accepted to omit the confession in favor of other means of entering into worship. When Lent arrives, we will be using an order for confession as well as other elements (e.g., Kyrie, Nunc dimittis, etc.) appropriate to this penitential season.

In addition to providing more frequent explanations of changes in the liturgy, Pastor will be offering Worship 101 on Sundays in Lent. We hope you'll be eager to learn more about the roots of Christian worship and the riches of the liturgy. As in recent times, Director of Music Nicole Nicholson and Pastor will be creating video messages to be published each Wednesday during Lent. We trust you'll look forward to these brief meditations on scripture and music.



CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
3384 ISLAND ROAD, WANTAGH, NEW YORK 11793

2025 Easter Flower Memorials

Dear Friends,

Easter Sunday is on April 20 this year. Soon it will be time to plan for the adorning of the Church. There will be the usual altar flowers along with assorted spring flowers. The decorations, as memorials, will be listed in the Easter Sunday bulletin. The suggested amount of the gift is \$15.00. Please complete the form below and return it, with your check, to the Church office. Kindly have all submissions in no later than **Tuesday, April 15.**

Sincerely,
Della Rao

Parish Administrator



Christ Lutheran Church
2025 Easter Flower Memorials
3384 Island Road, Wantagh, New York 11793

I am enclosing \$_____ for the Easter flowers. Please select: Cash Check #: _____

Total # of Memorials: _____ Offering Envelope #: _____ Phone: _____

Please clearly print below **exactly as you'd like your memorials to appear in the bulletin:**

in Thanksgiving to God.

in Honor of: _____

in Memory of: _____

Given By: _____

ASH WEDNESDAY: LENT BEGINS

Worship Service: **Wednesday, March 5th at 7PM**

Lenten Devotions: Sent out **via email** every Wednesday.

PARISH REGISTER MEMORIALS

General Memorial

In Memory of: **Robert Freyer**

Given by: *Emmy Grenzic*

Give online today with Vanco! Scan this QR code with your smartphone's camera or visit this link: <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZEAF>.



GOOD NEWS & BLESSINGS

March Birthdays

5: Bill Henderson

6: Jennifer Proce

7: Scarlet Fire Reed

9: Charles Kuchynskas

9: Allison Michelle Banz

10: Dana Antonette

12: Jessica Hasteadt

16: Barbara Stone

19: Joan Drake

19: Jean Leib

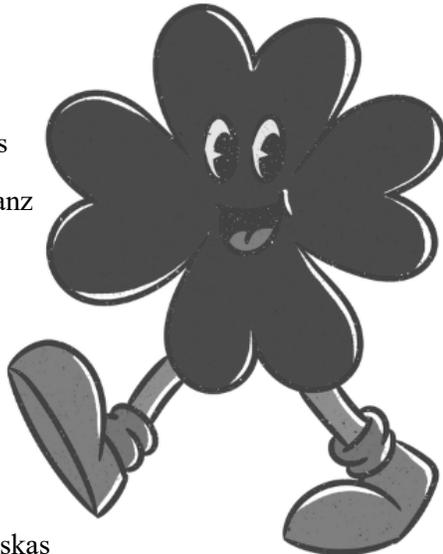
21: Elyzabeth Kuchynskas

21: Gabrielle Scibelli

21: Gus Raitz

23: James Kemnah

26: Mary Wagner



28: Kaylee Hope Franz

30: Lynn Hasteadt

March Anniversaries

14: Emily and Dan Bloomfield

Would you like to include a birthday or anniversary in the Spire? All are welcome! Please call or email the Church office with the name(s) and date(s). Please do so no later than 30 days before your celebration.

Good News

- **Worship 101:** Pastor Sue invites all to attend a "Worship 101" weekly class, which will be held on Sundays at 10:30AM in Room 10 **beginning on March 9th**. No registration is necessary. This will incorporate Confirmation education, and is valuable for members of all ages seeking to grow in their spiritual knowledge. (You are welcome to bring your goodies from Coffee Hour!)
- **Save the Date!** Wantagh's St. Patrick's Day Parade will be held on **Sunday, March 16th**. Please see Della if you are interested in participating with CLC this year.
- **Lenten Devotions:** In collaboration with Pastor Sprowls, our Music Director, Nicole Nicholson, has produced a series of spiritual devotions for the Lenten season. These devotions will be emailed each Wednesday and posted to our YouTube channel.
- **Volunteers Needed!** Volunteers are needed as we prepare eggs for the **2025 Easter Egg Hunt**. If you or your family/group would like to help us, please speak with Claudia Gross or Della Rao.

CLC Youth News

- **Easter Egg Hunt:** Save the date! The Easter Egg Hunt will be held on **Saturday, April 19th**. Further details and an RSVP form are available in this edition of the Spire. A digital RSVP form will also be emailed out.
- **Nursery School:** Registration for the 2025-2026 school year is ongoing and limited spots remain! Registration for the Summer Program begins next month. Registration forms are and will be available on

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The Rev. Susan F. Sprowls, Interim Pastor • Roxanne Toomey, Deacon

Nicole Nicholson, Director of Music • Kamelija Galijan-Curry, Organist

Dana Antonette, Director, The Christian Nursery School • Della Rao, Parish Administrator/Christian Education Coordinator



the school's website. For questions, please call the Nursery School office at 516-679-8425.

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Outreach Updates

- Special collections continue to be received through the month of February for Lutheran Disaster Response re: the Southern California wildfires. We are grateful to the Thrift Shop for their donation of proceeds from one week's sales to this effort. Council will research ways that we may also help LDR in their continuing relief efforts in North Carolina, which may last months or years.
- WELCA is collecting items for Personal Care Kits through the end of February. A collection box will be near the sanctuary entrance. Kits will be assembled at their March meeting.
- Jeri Hallgren continues to organize the delivery of altar flowers to the shut-ins. Thank you for your hard work!

General Worship Updates

- Christmas/Epiphany Cycle: It was noted that, in keeping with common practice, the Order for Confession and Forgiveness is being omitted during the festive Christmas/Epiphany cycle.
- Ash Wednesday worship service will be held on March 5th at 7PM. The liturgy will be updated during the Lenten season, in keeping with common ELCA practice. Nothing wholly unfamiliar will be introduced to the congregation.
- Lenten devotions will be sent out via email every Wednesday, organized by Nicole and Pastor.
- The Holy Week worship schedule is as follows: Palm Sunday, 9AM; Maundy Thursday, 7PM; Good Friday, 7PM; Easter Sunday, 9AM and 11AM.
- Easter flowers have been ordered from Borella Nursery and will be delivered on Good Friday.

Music Ministry Updates

- The Bell Choir is scheduled to play on February 16th and March 1st. Necessary repairs were made to a few malfunctioning instruments.
- Planning continues for the development of a children's choir, which will either be named as such or called the Jubilation Choir. More updates to follow.
- We are transitioning to singing during the Communion hymn as a way to enhance congregational repertoire and exposure to important hymns.

- Potential Easter liturgies are under development and review.

Christian Education Updates

- Pastor will be meeting with Roxanne to discuss changes to Confirmation instruction. She will be taking over the leadership role previously shared by Nicole and Della.
- Pastor will be offering First Communion instruction this Spring to all who are interested. Dylan Kennah is scheduled to receive First Communion this year (date to be confirmed by his family).
- Thank you to Jeri Hallgren and Barbara Rath for collecting over 1500 eggs for this year's Easter Egg Hunts. Volunteers to fill them are welcome. More details to follow.

Nursery Updates

- Registration for the 2025-2026 school year is open. 77 children are currently enrolled and limited spots remain.
- Registration for the 2025 Summer Program begins next month. We anticipate another full enrollment.
- The Nursery School will participate in an LSA Day celebration during worship service on March 2nd.
- Picture Day will be held on March 3rd and 4th.

Miscellaneous Updates

- Correspondence was read and discussed by the following members: Bob Hasteadt (who presented his thoughts in person), Bill Henderson, Julia Juergens, and Lilly Ann Munnich. Thank you for your valuable input!
- The Town of Hempstead removed the No Parking on Sunday sign on Island Road.
- Thank you to **Five Below in Levittown** for their generous donation of goods for the Thrift Shop and Nursery School!

THRIFT SHOP

Our thrift shop is open on Fridays, 9AM-3PM, and the first Saturday of each month, 10AM-2PM. **The next Thrift Shop Saturday will be held on March 1st.**

Donations are appreciated! We kindly ask that donations are not left in Room 10, as other groups use that space. For your convenience, a donation shed is available for your use outside of Thrift Shop hours. **Please be sure to place your donations *in* the shed, not outside of it, as we cannot guarantee they will be brought inside right away.** If you are making a sizeable donation (quantity or very large items), please call the Church office ahead of time. **We are not able to accept donations of books, cribs, or mattresses at this time.** If you are unsure of whether we



can accept an item, please call the Church office to be connected with a Thrift Shop coordinator. Thank you!

CHRISTIAN OUTREACH

Homebound Communion: Did you know that we offer Communion for the homebound? Due to a temporary illness or injury or a long-term situation, this option is available to you. If you or a loved one is interested in receiving Communion at home or at a care facility, please contact the Church office.

SoCal Wildfire Relief: Monetary donations are currently being collected on behalf of Lutheran Disaster Response. Your donation will be used to provide front-line *and* long-term support for those impacted by the wildfires. Donation envelopes are available in the Sanctuary. If you would like to mail in a donation, please be sure to designate it appropriately for SoCal Wildfire Relief.

Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Kits: Thank you to all who contributed needed items to the LWR Personal Care Kits. The kits will be assembled during the March WELCA meeting.

THRIVENT FINANCIAL

To Members of the Congregation: On March 5th, WELCA and Thrivent plan to assemble and ship personal care kits for Lutheran World Relief to help people who are victims of natural disasters or political upheaval. LWR has been working for over 80 years to help our neighbors in times of extreme need. Tens of thousands of people around the country have taken part in the program to assemble kits of essential items needed by our neighbors both near and far. LWR coordinates with multiple organizations responding at the local level when communities in the U.S. are affected by disasters like hurricanes, tornadoes, flood and wildfires. We are looking for members of the congregation to donate bath towels (preferably dark colors), bath-size soap bars, toothbrushes, wide-tooth combs, and nail clippers. **We especially need bath towels.** In the past we've found light-weight towels at Walmart for between \$2-\$3. Donated items can be left in the box in the loggia. You can also donate money for this project. Please send checks payable to WELCA to the church office. We are grateful to **Thrivent** for their allocation of \$250 for this worthwhile project. Thank you for any help you can give.

To All Thrivent Members: Be sure to check if you have Choice Dollars. You can direct these to our church or nursery school, or to another charitable organization on their register. It only takes a minute. Call 1-800-Thrivent or direct them online at Thrivent.com. If you don't do this by **March 31st**, you will lose the opportunity to direct Thrivent's money to a cause you believe in.

WELCA

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, March 5th at 1PM in Room 2000. We will be assembling the health kits for Lutheran World Relief. As always, all women are welcome. Coffee and cake will be served. Looking forward to seeing you there. - *Lilly Ann Munnich*

The next WELCA Conference Bible Study will be held at St. David's Lutheran Church in Massapequa Park on Wednesday, March 19th at 10AM. All ladies are welcome!

FROM THE KNITWITS...

Thank you to Jody, a Thrift Shop customer, and Gail Gulotta for coming to the rescue after my plea for hats for the children of Hewlett House! I delivered them before my surgery, and they were thrilled. If you can help, just let me know. Every little bit helps! - *Lilly Ann Munnich, 516-826-3663*

ST. JOHN'S FOOD PANTRY

Your donations are appreciated. Thank you!

Canned Stew - Canned Tuna - Chef Boyardee
Chili with Beans - Coffee - Cookies - Cooking Oil - Crackers
Egg Noodles - Instant Mashed Potatoes - Juice
Pancake Mix & Syrup - Peanut Butter
Pasta (Penne/Spaghetti) & Sauce - Pork & Beans - Rice
Salad Dressing - Shelf-Stable Milk - Spam - Tuna Helper
Please check the expiration dates on packaged foods before donating.



PRAYER LIST

We Remember Especially...

Judy Angeloch, Rebecca Breckel, Kathleen Cardone, Becky Carlson, James Cathcart, Danielle Chillemi, Sal and Sue Costanzo, Joan Drake, Betty Gibberman, Bill Gilmor, Emmy Grenzig, Barbara Grieser, Theresa Heenan, Arnold Howard, Steven Koch, Ruth Kollar, Susan Kremer, Jean Leib, Chris and Norma Mantay, Janet and William McShea, Marilyn Miller, Lilly Ann Munnich, John Nittoli, Anne Palkovich, James Pallas, Jim Pawl, Barbara and Gary Proce, Catherine and Terri Rao, Emmett and Rose Reilly, Ann and Barbara Reimer, Della Dorn Rice, Kay Riese, Joseph Arthur Skorupski, Doris Spiegle, Natalie Stone, James Toomey, Hilde Uccellini, Nancy Valenti, Liz Wagner

REMINDER: To add a name to our prayer list, please contact the Church office. Names remain on the list for six weeks per request, unless specified that it is a long-term request. Please be sure to apprise the Church office of any updates or changes.



CLC HISTORY



Pictured are happy faces from last year's St. Patrick's Day Parade. We hope you will volunteer with us this year!



Holy Week: April 13-20, 2025

Palm Sunday, April 13: 9:00AM Service
Maundy Thursday, April 17: 7:00PM Service
Good Friday, April 18: 7:00PM Tenebrae Service
Easter Sunday, April 20: 9:00AM & 11:00AM Services

All worship services will be led by Pastor Sprowls. Services will be livestreamed on Facebook and available on YouTube the following business day.



CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH'S ANNUAL
EASTER EGG HUNT

All neighborhood children ages three through third grade are welcome to join us for this fun event!

Date/Time: Saturday, April 19th, 10:00AM
Rain Date/Time: Saturday, April 26th, 10:00AM
 We will notify attendees if we postpone due to the weather.

Location: Steinbicker Hall & Church Lawns
Street Address: 3384 Island Road, Wantagh

Egg Hiding: Morning of Egg Hunt, 9:00AM
 Volunteers ages fourth grade and up are welcome to help!

This year, we are asking for the help of our church families and organizations with filling the 1,500 eggs to be hidden! We will supply the eggs and the treats for you.

If you would like to participate in this "eggcellent" spring event, please submit the RSVP form below to the Church office by **Friday, April 11th**. We "hop" to see you there!

✂ -----

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH'S ANNUAL
EASTER EGG HUNT

Parent/Guardian: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

- My child attends Sunday School at Christ Lutheran Church.
- My child attends or attended The Christian Nursery School.
- I would like to learn more about your youth programs!

The following children will participate in the egg hunt:

Name: _____ Age: _____

Name: _____ Age: _____

Name: _____ Age: _____

Name: _____ Age: _____

- I would like to help fill and/or hide the eggs.

Name: _____ Age: _____

Name: _____ Age: _____

Name: _____ Age: _____

- My child has a food allergy that you should be aware of.

Please specify: _____

- Please check if you **do not** wish for images of your child to be shared on our Church & School website and social media pages.

Please return this form by Friday, April 11th.
3384 Island Road, Wantagh, New York 11793



MARCH/APRIL 2025 LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Date/Description	Acolyte	Altar Guild	Communion Assistant	Counters	Ushers	Coffee Hour Hosts
Sun, March 2, 2025 Transfiguration of Our Lord 9:00AM Service (White)	M. Murphy	B. Rath's Group	Elaine DiChiara	R. Ahearn J. Gross H. Vogel	J. Gross M. Murphy	Claudia & John Gross
Wed, March 5, 2025 Ash Wednesday 7:00PM Service (Purple)	N/A	<u>All Groups</u>	Barbara Stone	N/A	R. Ahearn J. Gross	N/A
Sun, March 9, 2025 1 st Sunday in Lent 9:00AM Service (Purple)	J. Kemnath	E. Colton/L.A. Munnich's Group	Dee Bloomfield	D. Ohlander R. Ohlander B. Rath G. Velttri	M. Murphy C. Sparke	Franz & Ohlander Families
Sun, March 16, 2025 2 nd Sunday in Lent 9:00AM Service (Purple)	J. Kemnath	D. Ohlander's Group	Elaine DiChiara	J. Eastlund J. Eastlund J. Fitzgerald	R. Ahearn J. Gross	Eleanor Freyer and Eileen Colton
Sun, March 23, 2025 3 rd Sunday in Lent 9:00AM Service (Purple)	M. Murphy	B. Rath's Group	Dee Bloomfield	J. Fahey B. Henderson D. Ohlander R. Ohlander	M. Murphy C. Sparke	<u>Volunteers Needed!</u>
Sun, March 30, 2025 4 th Sunday in Lent 9:00 AM Service (Purple)	<u>Open</u>	E. Colton/L.A. Munnich's Group	Barbara Stone	R. Ahearn J. Gross H. Vogel	R. Ahearn J. Gross	Barbara Rath's Altar Guild Group
Sun, April 6, 2025 5 th Sunday in Lent 9:00AM Service (Purple)	J. Kemnath	D. Ohlander's Group	Barbara Stone	D. Ohlander R. Ohlander B. Rath G. Velttri	M. Murphy C. Sparke	Danielle Adams

Attention Worship Assistants:

The Church Office will be contacting you shortly regarding your Holy Week (April 13-20) availability. Please confirm your availability no later than Monday, March 24. Thank you for your cooperation!

NEW WORSHIP ASSISTANTS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME! NO PRIOR EXPERIENCE IS NECESSARY. CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE TO LEARN MORE. CURRENT WORSHIP ASSISTANTS SHOULD CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE IF THEY NEED TO MAKE A CHANGE TO THEIR ASSIGNMENT. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO VOLUNTEER TO HOST A COFFEE HOUR, PLEASE CALL JAN EASTLUND AT 516-781-0491.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
23 9am - Sunday School 9am - Worship	24 7pm - Scouts-Steinbicker and	25 8pm - AA: Rm. 10	26 Ash Wednesday 1pm - WELCA: 2000 4pm - Cub Scouts: Rm. 10 7pm - Worship Service	27 Finance Meeting Time TBD 10am - TOPS: Rm. 10	28 9am - Thrift Shop @ Room 10 7pm - AA: Rm. 10 8:15pm - AA: Rm. 10	1 10am - Thrift Shop Saturday 6:45pm - AA: Rm. 10 8:15pm - AA: Rm. 10
2 LSA Day 9am - Sunday School 9am - Worship	3 7pm - Scouts-Steinbicker and	4 8pm - AA: Rm. 10	5 9:30am - Spire Mailing 4pm - Cub Scouts: Rm. 10 7pm - Bell Choir 8pm - Adult Choir	6 10am - TOPS: Rm. 10	7 9am - Thrift Shop @ Room 10 7pm - AA: Rm. 10 8:15pm - AA: Rm. 10	8 6:45pm - AA: Rm. 10 8:15pm - AA: Rm. 10
9 Daylight Savings Begins 9am - Sunday School 9am - Worship 10:30am - Worship 101 Rm.	10 7pm - Scouts-Steinbicker and	11 7pm - W&M/Council Meeting 8pm - AA: Rm. 10	12 4pm - Cub Scouts: Rm. 10 7pm - Bell Choir 8pm - Adult Choir	13 10am - TOPS: Rm. 10	14 9am - Thrift Shop @ Room 10 7pm - AA: Rm. 10 8:15pm - AA: Rm. 10	15 6:45pm - AA: Rm. 10 8:15pm - AA: Rm. 10
16 St. Patrick's Day 9am - Sunday School 9am - Worship 10:30am - Worship 101 Rm. 2pm - Wantagh Parade	17 7pm - Scouts-Steinbicker and	18 8pm - AA: Rm. 10	19 Spire Deadline 10am - WELCA Bible Study 4pm - Cub Scouts: Rm. 10 7pm - Bell Choir 8pm - Adult Choir	20 10am - TOPS: Rm. 10	21 9am - Thrift Shop @ Room 10 7pm - AA: Rm. 10 8:15pm - AA: Rm. 10	22 6:45pm - AA: Rm. 10 8:15pm - AA: Rm. 10
23 9am - Sunday School 9am - Worship 10:30am - Worship 101 Rm.	24 7pm - Scouts-Steinbicker and	25 8pm - AA: Rm. 10	26 9:30am - Spire Mailing 4pm - Cub Scouts: Rm. 10 7pm - Bell Choir 8pm - Adult Choir	27 10am - TOPS: Rm. 10	28 9am - Thrift Shop @ Room 10 7pm - AA: Rm. 10 8:15pm - AA: Rm. 10	29 6:45pm - AA: Rm. 10 8:15pm - AA: Rm. 10
30 9am - Sunday School 9am - Worship 10:30am - Worship 101 Rm.	31 7pm - Scouts-Steinbicker and	1 8pm - AA: Rm. 10	2 9:30am - Spire Mailing 4pm - Cub Scouts: Rm. 10 7pm - Bell Choir 8pm - Adult Choir	3 10am - TOPS: Rm. 10	4 9am - Thrift Shop @ Room 10 7pm - AA: Rm. 10 8:15pm - AA: Rm. 10	5 6:45pm - AA: Rm. 10 8:15pm - AA: Rm. 10

Nursery School News: March 2025



Winter seems never-ending with all this cold and dreary weather. Luckily, love kept us all warm and cozy in the classrooms. The classrooms were bursting with hearts, Valentines' Day cards and crafts the children made! All the children participated in a Valentine's Day party where they enjoyed some sweet treats and passed out cards to each other.

Music and Movement classes are in full swing. The children are loving the time spent using instruments, singing, dancing and moving their bodies to the beat of the music.

The children were very busy this month learning all about hibernation and our friend the groundhog. We made some great predictions about whether or not the groundhog will see its shadow and if winter will end early this year. The four-year-olds learned what a prediction is and how to make an educated one.

With Dental Awareness month taking place in February the children learned how important it is to care for your teeth. We spoke all about how important it is to limit sweets, eat healthy and brush, brush, brush! We welcomed a very special visitor; Dr. Erica Anand a Pediatric Dentist in Merrick. Dr Erica and her dental hygienists showed the children how to brush their teeth and gave us all some special tools to make sure we are doing the best job at home brushing!

All that brushing is getting our smiles ready for picture day! A second picture day will take place in March. Our four-year-old students will have their cap and gown graduation photos taken and new Spring photos of all the children will be taken. We are so excited to show off all those beautiful smiling faces.

Don't forget it is open enrollment for the 2025/2026 school year. Feel free to call the Nursery School office at 516-679-8425 or email us at cnsdirector@clcwantagh.org for more information or to set up a tour. Also, please visit our website <https://clcwantagh.org/cns.html> to get more information on the classes we offer. Our classes are filling up quickly this year so please don't wait.

Starting at the end of March we will have open enrollment for Summer Program. More information can be found on the website as it gets closer to registration.

Christ Lutheran Church

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www.CLCWantagh.org

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CONTAINS TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL

March 2025

If you do not wish to receive this mailing,
Please return this sheet to the address above.

Coming in March...

March 1st: Thrift Shop Saturday, 10AM-2PM

March 2nd: Lutheran Schools Association (LSA) Day

March 5th: WELCA, 1PM; Ash Wednesday Worship Service, 7PM

March 6th: Finance Meeting

March 9th: Daylight Savings Time Begins; Worship 101 (Sundays, 10:30AM, Rm. 10)

March 11th: Council Meeting, 7PM, Room 2000

March 16th: St. Patrick's Day (Parade Begins at 2PM)

March 19th: Spire Submission Deadline; WELCA Bible Study, 10AM, St. David's

March 26th: Spire Mailing, 9:30AM, Library

