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# Hosanna Hotline

## Monthly Newsletter of Hosanna Lutheran Church - February 2012

### *Serving God, Changing Lives.*

#### February Highlights

**Wed., February 1**  
**5:30 PM WELCA Board Meeting**

**Sat., February 4**  
**10:30 AM WELCA Valentine Brunch**  
**6:00 PM Hosanna Book Discussion**

**Sun., February 5**  
**Super Bowl Sunday Buffalo Hot Wings Fundraiser**  
**Equal Exchange Coffee Sunday**  
**IHN Week at Hosanna Begins**  
**Mission of the Month Noisy Offering: Souper Bowl of Caring**  
**9:00 AM CREW Breakfast at Denny's**

**Tue., February 7**  
**7:00 PM Care Team Meeting**  
**10:00 AM Bishop's Worship Excellence Team Meeting - Salem Lutheran**

#### Worship Does God's Story

By Clayton Faulkner, Bishop's Worship Excellence Team

Every time the church gathers together for worship it does God's story. God's story is that epic narrative that we can see unfolding throughout the Bible. When we step back and look at the big picture that the total Bible paints we can see a three-part story unfold. The three parts are creation, incarnation, and re-creation. Every time we gather for worship at Faith we do God's story.

The story of God begins at the story of creation. God, existing as a Triune community, created human beings to participate in the community of God. Unfortunately the idyllic community didn't last forever and corruption and evil entered the picture. But God sets in motion the plan to redeem and fix everything that went wrong. Out of the desolation of the desert the line of Abraham is established to begin the process of bringing back the peace once found in the Garden. God kick-starts the plan of redemption.

The incarnation of God is witnessed in the person of Jesus. Jesus was God's response after centuries of being nothing more to us than what we thought God should be: angry, insecure, and the vengeance-seeking tyrant we would be if we were God. In Jesus, God's loving desire to really be known overflowed the heavens and was made manifest among us. Jesus' humble mission was to become the Lamb of God that takes away the sins of the world. God comes to us and accomplishes for us what we cannot do ourselves: salvation.

Re-creation is what the Holy Spirit brings about through the work of Jesus. Re-creation is the work of salvation healing all the broken areas of our lives. Re-creation is the new life we find as people born of water and the Spirit.

Re-creation is the Jesus-garment that we put on when we

**Sat., February 18**  
**7:00 PM Women's**  
**Interfaith Book**  
**Discussion**

**Sun., February 19**  
**Transfiguration**  
**10:00 AM Worship:**  
**World Premier of**  
**"Hosanna Mass"**

**Mon., February 20**  
**Presidents Day**  
**Holiday - Office**  
**Closed**

**Wed., February 22**  
**Ash Wednesday**  
**6:15 PM Ash**  
**Wednesday Worship**  
**for Families with Small**  
**Children**  
**7:30 PM Ash**  
**Wednesday Worship**

**Sat., February 25**  
**Cub Scout Blue and**  
**Gold Banquet**

**Sun., February 26**  
**First Sunday in Lent**  
**10:00 AM Worship and**  
**Mentoring Sunday**  
**with Holy Communion**  
**- No Kid's Church**

**Wed., February 29**  
**Leap Year Day**  
**6:15 PM Soup**  
**Supper**  
**7:00 PM Lenten**  
**Meditation with Holden**  
**Evening Prayer by**  
**Marty Haugen (also all**  
**Wednesdays in**  
**March)**

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become new creatures. Re-creation is the power of God to redeem everyone and everything. Re-creation is a new heaven and a new earth, where sorrows find their end and Jesus is the only light we need. Re-creation is the Garden restored.

The story of God is the story that our worship does. How? Every time we lift our corporate prayers we acknowledge God as the Creator of every good and perfect gift. Every time we invoke the name of the Holy Trinity we recognize that God was before creation came to be. When we bring our gifts and offerings to God we realize that as the Creator, everything is already God's. That is how our worship remembers creation. Every time the Word of God is read and the Gospel of peace is proclaimed we hear Jesus. Every time the bread and wine are shared at the Table God's love is experienced anew in the community of his Body. That is how our worship remembers and experiences incarnation. Every time we prepare for the meal and hear the words "until he comes again" we anticipate the feast to come. When we share the peace we experience the reconciliation that comes from being new creatures. Every time we celebrate at the baptismal font we are connected with the death and resurrection of Jesus that brings us new life. That is how our worship experiences and anticipates re-creation. When we gather for worship on Sunday, remember, we are doing God's story!

## Reviewing the Calendar...

**February 3-5 Lutherhill Book Club** - We figured since Oprah has retired, we would take her torch and run with it. All kidding aside, we invite you out for a fun discussion on an influential book of our time. Cost: \$90 per person. [Register here.](#)

**Saturday, February 4, WELCA Valentines Brunch**, 10:30 AM-1:30 PM at the White Flamingo Restaurant. Cost: \$13.85 each with choice of five sandwiches. Sign up in the Narthex.

**Saturday, February 4, 6:00 PM - Hosanna Book Discussion** in the Confirmation classroom. Upcoming title: "My Own Country: a doctor's story of a town and its people in the age of AIDS," by Abraham Verghese.

**Sunday, February 5 - Super Bowl Hot Wings Fundraiser** for the Hosanna Choir.



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## Souper Bowl of Caring/Noisy Offering

Hosanna's Confirmation class is participating in the Souper Bowl of Caring on Sunday, Feb. 5th. **If each person donates one canned food item and \$1**, we can make a difference in our community. All donations will be given to "The Life Center" (our chosen location). We feel strongly about the good work being done in God's name at the center. So, everyone... Please bring at least one canned food item along with your monetary offering to worship on Super Bowl Sunday. Thank you.....Alex, Kevin, Lillian, Mason and Melanie

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## Celebration Sunday, February 12

**Joyful Generosity!** We are nearing our annual Celebration Sunday, February 12, when we return annual covenants. Please take your response packets and offering envelopes (if you have not done so) on the table in the Narthex. Lunch will be provided (ham, main course).

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## Eickenroht Elementary "Home-Room Mothers for Valentines Day"

**Tuesday, February 14**, 1:30-2:30 PM - 5 volunteers are needed to help with this event at Eickenroht Elementary. Contact Heda Christ.

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**February 17-19 Senior High Retreat at Lutherhill** - Join other High School youth for an action-packed weekend! Be challenged by God's message of how we are to carry His light out into the world. Explore your faith life alongside your peers. Cost: \$130 per person. [Register here.](#)

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## World Premiere


**Sunday, February 19 (Transfiguration of Our Lord)**, Hosanna Choir and friends will be performing "Hosanna Mass" by B.C. Payton, a work composed especially for Hosanna!

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## Ash Wednesday... Lent Begins

**Wednesday, February 22**


6:15 PM Ash Wednesday Worship for Families with Small Children  
7:30 PM Ash Wednesday Worship

**Midweek Lenten Services****Wednesdays, February 29, March 7, 14, 21 and 28**


6:15 PM Lenten Soup Supper  
7:00 PM Lenten Meditation with Holden Evening Prayer by Marty Haugen.

**March 2-4 Women's Pampering Weekend at Lutherhill -**


Ladies pamper your spirit and relax. Sara Larson Woodruff will help you find your balance amidst the demands of day-to-day life. What is better than spending a weekend illuminating your spirit? Cost: \$150 per person. [Register here.](#)




**Saturday, March 17, 9:00 AM** - Hosanna Cleanup Day. Many things need to be done.

**March 23-25 Upper Elementary Spring Retreat (grades 3-6) -**

A great time in life to discover how God's light can be applied to everyday living. You want to know more, more about God, more about your life with God, and more about the light God put in you. Lutherhill is ready to explore God's light with you and how you can be a laser show for Christ. Cost: \$70 per person. [Register here.](#)



**Saturday, March 24 - Fishing Excursion** on Lake Conroe with Phillip's Guide Service. \$50 per person. Bring your own food, water and drinks. You will be catching catfish, black bass, white bass and hybrid striped bass. Fun for everyone. Contact Cecil Streetman for info; sign up in the Narthex.



**Friday, April 6 - Good Friday Golf Tournament**, 8:00 AM. Sign up and details in the Narthex.

**Holy Week at Hosanna**

**Sunday, April 1 - Sunday of the Passion;** worship at 10:00 AM with procession of palms.

**Thursday, April 5 - Maundy Thursday** commemorating the Last Supper.

- 6:15 PM Worship for Families with Young Children
- 7:30 PM Worship

**Friday, April 6 - Good Friday observance** at 7:00 PM.

**Saturday, April 7 - Easter Vigil** at 7:00 PM.

**Sunday, April 8 - Easter Sunday.** Celebrate the resurrection of our Lord with festival worship at 10:00 AM.

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**Sunday, April 15 - Easter Festival featuring a joint worship with Nueva Vision at 10:00 AM, followed by food and fun activities.**

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**April 27-29 Family Spring Retreat at Lutherhill** - Spring is the perfect time to grow things, so grow your family's faith together, celebrating God's gifts. Bring the whole family to Lutherhill for a reminder of how to carry God's light out into the world. Cost: \$70 per person 13 and older / \$40 per person under 13 years. [Register here.](#)

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**May 11-12 - Synod Assembly 2012** at Lakewood United Methodist Church, Houston. This year's theme is "Worship: Some Assembly Required." As the theme indicates the focus is on WORSHIP! Everyone is welcome!

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## Some Photos to Share...

Below, three images from the January seniors outing to the Lanier Theological Library at 14130 Hargrave (off Cutton Road). Details about the library can be seen online: <http://www.laniertheologicallibrary.org>

The library consists of two buildings, the library itself and the Stone Chapel. Aside from its large collection of books and periodicals, it also has displays of artifacts and historical documents, including (below) a facsimile of the Isaiah scroll, one of the Dead Sea Scrolls, found at Qumran.



The library also has a collection of ancient artifacts that range from Iron Age pottery to Roman currency. For example, a so-called "Widow's Mite," a small (size of a finger nail) bronze coin like that placed in the Temple offering box by a poor widow, who gave her last two coins -- an account found in Mark 12:41-44 and Luke 21:1-4.



Then there is the Stone Chapel, a reconstruction of a 500 A.D. church in Tomarza, Cappadocia (Turkey). The Stone Chapel was built using photos of the original church ruins taken in 1909 as well as an analysis of the site by a Harvard student published in 1971. Typical of many Byzantine churches of that area, the church was laid out in the shape of a cross. Its ceiling has been decorated with beautiful images painted by Richard McCluskey, representing stories from the Bible from the creation account in Genesis to the last judgement in Revelation. Below, the paintings inside the

dome.



The library is free and open weekdays. See the [Lanier website](#) for hours, directions and admittance instructions. It also hosts lectures (also free, but you must register).

Change of pace... a couple of photos from Colorado. Whenever I see vistas like this I am reminded of the hymn. For the Beauty of the Earth...

*"For the beauty of the earth, for the beauty of the skies ... hill and vale and tree and flow'r, sun and moon and stars of light; Christ, our God, in thee we raise this our sacrifice of praise."*



Above, along U.S. 34, Big Thompson River canyon. Below, Horseshoe Park in Rocky Mountain National Park; view of (left to right) Mt. Chapin, Chiquita Pk., Mt. Ypsilon and Mt. Fairchild.



(photos: Dale Bargmann)

**Hosanna Lutheran Church | 16526 Ella Blvd. | Houston, TX 77090**

Sunday Adult Education - 9 AM

Sunday Worship with Kids Church and Communion - 10 AM

Wednesday Morning Bible Study - 10 AM

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