

# THE SCRIBE



**MARCH-2021**

From Pastor Ken

## **Lent**

On Wednesday evenings at 7:00pm, we gather for Lenten Worship with the peaceful Holden Evening Prayer services. Our theme, after a year of COVID, is A Time of Healing.

Each week we will focus on a different person that Jesus healed. We will learn more about our Lord's compassion and his desire to make us whole.

## **A Time of Healing**

February 24	The Leper
March 3	The Blind Man
March 10	The Man in the Tombs
March 17	The Sick Boy and his Father
March 24	The Centurion
April 1	The Healing in Forgiveness

## **New Staff**

Welcome to **Michelle Madison**, our new Administrative Assistant. Michelle was born and raised in Washington, D.C., later moving to Seattle, Washington, where she attended college at Western Washington University in Bellingham. Michelle also resided in Atlanta and Dallas before moving to Denver in 1991. Michelle lives in Black Forest since 2016.

In her free time, she enjoys horses and alpacas, swimming, making jewelry and writing contemporary fiction.

Be sure to stop in or call the office and welcome the newest member of the staff!

...And don't worry, **Lisa** is not leaving. She is now the Office Manager/Director of Ministries.

## **Call Process Update**

At the time of the annual meeting, our call committee was preparing to schedule a visit with a very promising candidate for associate pastor. Since that time, this individual has decided to step away from the call process for personal development and family reasons.

We are continuing to prayerfully consider other candidates as their profiles are submitted to us. The NALC saw a significant drop in call interest/activity in November and December. However, we would expect to see more activity once COVID-related concerns begin to subside.

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**DESIGNATED LENTEN OFFERINGS**-Your Social Ministry Committee designated the offerings collected during our Wednesday night Lenten services to be sent to the NALC's Disaster Response Fund. This fund addresses needs following flooding, tornadoes, fires, and labor strikes. More can be found at this address: <https://thenalc.org/nalc-disaster-response/>

## ***50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year for Black Forest Lutheran Church***

***January 10, 1971***

### ***A Little Bit of History***

This is a big year in the life of Black Forest Lutheran Church – 50 years! Due to COVID, we will postpone an in-person celebration until next year. However, we can always celebrate this year in an alternative way by sharing the history/stories of people who were part of that history. We will do this by means of our Scribe. Our story begins . . .

### ***A Vision of the Faithful***

It was a vision of a handful of people that a Lutheran Church be formed in Black Forest. Without any support from a national church body, 8-10 people committed themselves as one body in Christ, to call, to witness, to evangelize and to start a church in the Lutheran tradition. This vision was fulfilled on November 2, 1969, as the first worship service was held in the Black Forest Community Church with a borrowed pastor from Iliff Seminary in Denver. Forty-six people attended.

As the lay-managed mission continued to grow in numbers, and in spirit, the Lutheran Church in America came forward to provide continuing support to this struggling but committed mission.

In July of 1970, a potluck was held in honor of Air Force Chaplain Waldemar Nelson for serving as Pastor the first few months of 1970. In April 1970, the Division of Mission of the LCA extended a call to the Reverend George Jacobson to become pastor of Black Forest Lutheran Church (naming of the new church was selected in July 1970). At the time, the average attendance of the mission was 55 to 60 people per Sunday.

In October 1970, a *Declaration of Intent to Affiliate* was signed committing BFLC to membership of the LCA. This Charter was signed on Reformation Sunday by 107 baptized members, and from our current membership included Mike Decker and Betty Thomas. A festive celebration was planned to rival the tacking of the 95 Thesis to the door of the Castle at Wittenberg by Martin Luther in 1517.

Service of Organization was January 10, 1971 – The President of the Rocky Mountain Synod of the Lutheran Church in America, the Reverend Dr. Franklin Heglund, presided and the Reverend C. J. Thearie preached the sermon. The congregation organized with 130 baptized members. There were 11 baptisms (9 children and 2 adults) also performed at this service.

What was Council's first order of business? *To be continued . . .*

## Annual Meeting Highlights January 31, 2021

Black Forest Lutheran Church Council President, Ken West, called the Annual Meeting to order after determining the 80 congregants present more than met the Constitutional requirement of 61 for a quorum. Pastor Ken gave devotions from Psalm 118 and then led the attendees in prayer.

The minutes of the 2020 Annual Meeting were unanimously approved.

Pastor's report: Pastor thanked us for our patience, flexibility, faithfulness, and generosity in this unusual year of COVID-19. No one in our congregation contracted the virus from another member of BFLC. We began with recorded worship services only. Then we moved to in person services in our outdoor worship area for almost four months. Since then, we have offered 8:00 and 10:30 services inside. These services are still recorded and put up on the website. Thanks to Patsy Wurster and Patrick Turechek and the many others who record, transport, upload and add text to make our online presence possible. Thanks to John Poss and Woody Duffin who made the video booth happen, and to others who made it possible to listen to the services on FM radio on our property. We said goodbye to staff members Rebecca Hohag and Jeanette Gould and give thanks for their work. Jacob Oglesby was hired as Youth and Family Ministry Director and has done a great job in these trying times. Lisa Regennitter has been a huge help as Office Manager. It was also noted that we raised \$18,500 to provide our missionaries, Didi and Serefina Panzo, with a quality used vehicle.

The Financial Secretary reported that 80 pledges, or 35% of the total number of contributors for 2020, have been received for a total of \$303,944 for 2021. The total contribution income projections for 2021 is slightly more than the actual contributions for 2020.

The 2021 Budget, 2020 overage and disbursement of unallocated funds from 2020 were presented and unanimously approved by the attendees.

Income over budget	\$3,935
Expenses below budget	<u>\$111,588</u>
	\$115,523
Carry Forward	\$(23,406)
Unallocated funds to be disbursed	\$92,117

\$31,889 will go to outreach (Benevolence, NALC, Pastor Eddie, and Marion House); \$30,000 will go to Associate Pastor reserves and \$30,228 will go to property, visiting speaker, audio-visual tech and the BFLC 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration.

Pastor Ken and Nancy Lord described the articles of the NALC constitution that we would be voting on. We voted on them on one ballot and they passed unanimously.

Four nominees for the council vacancies were introduced and elected by a unanimous vote. Two current council members were elected to a second term.

The various committees gave short reports highlighting their work.

Pastor Ken reported that the call process had slowed down due to COVID-19, but they have interviewed 8 qualified candidates and have narrowed their focus to one pastor who they hope to have visit soon.

After a closing prayer, the annual Meeting was adjourned.

## Reminders from the Social Ministry Committee

**Reminder – Daylight Savings Time**-Move your clocks forward 1 hour. Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup>.

**Reminder**-Please return Sunday's flower vases if you take them home.

**We need your help Sunday Mornings!** Contact Lisa

**At 8:00**

Altar Guild

**At 10:30**

Altar Guild

Assistants

*Volunteers to upload worship online.*

**Tuesday Brown Bag Lunch & Lecture group**-begins a new DVD lecture series on "Toqueville and the American Experiment" on **March 2<sup>nd</sup> @ 11:30-1:00pm**. This series deals with a foreigner's astute observations of the early American republic. Contact the Lords with questions.

**Cleaning your closets?** If you have any fabric or other sewing items you no longer need or use, please consider donating to the Quilt Group. Contact Kathy Schwindt if you have questions

**Military Care Boxes**-If you would like to help, you may bring in any of the following:

Comics

Chapstick

Peanuts

Gum

Snack Package Cookies

Lifesavers

Spices to flavor food

Small hygiene products

Sim Jims (Individual)

Mio Water Enhancers

Protein bars

Trail Mix

Please mark them 'military' and put them in the laundry cart in the narthex.

*Thank you in advance for supporting our military this way!*

*If there is someone in your family serving away from home, please share their address with the office so we can bless them with a care package!*

**Easter Baskets**-The March focus for the Social Ministry Committee is usually preparing Easter baskets for the children in the San Luis Valley region! For years this has been a hands-on project involving the entire congregation. Donations of baskets/bags, candy, stuffed toys and even healthy items like toothbrushes, toothpaste, etc. filled a box in Fellowship Hall. Workshops were held to make special treats. On Palm Sunday members joined in on an assembly line to put the baskets together. The onset of COVID has changed this procedure, partly due to some charities not being able to conduct distributions. The good news is that 50 bags will be filled this year and then delivered, thanks to our energizing bunnies, Lavonne Hidy and Francesca Wahlborg.



### **We welcome our new members!**

Cliff & Chris Collier

Liz Nieboer (Anna & Toby)

Jerry & Judith Jergensen

Carlene Peters

Linda Johnson & Walter Pryor

## Rewards Programs

**King Soopers** offers a rewards program for non-profits. BFLC is registered as one of the participating organizations. If you shop at King Soopers and have a loyalty card, we invite you to register with BFLC. Just go to [www.kingsoopers.com/communityrewards](http://www.kingsoopers.com/communityrewards) and go to Enroll. Once sales have reached \$5,000 from all the cards registered with BFLC, 5% is sent to Black Forest Cares. The last check we received showed only 19 households from BFLC are participating. Surely, we can do better! Black Forest Cares uses this money for purchasing meat and the items necessary for balanced diets for the families using the pantry.

If you shop **Safeway**, they also have a similar program, only you must purchase a **"gift card" from BFLC, \$10**. The gift card must be used to purchase groceries for it to be linked to BFLC. You can charge on your Visa or Master Card to load to the gift card. If you have questions on either of these programs, please contact Mary Montie. **Mary also has Safeway gift cards on hand.**

No need to weight down those purses or pockets with heavy change - quarters in the offering plate go to **Food for the Poor**. Pennies in the offering plate go to **Mosaic** - which is a program that helps the developmentally disabled be the best they can be.

This does not fall under the Social Ministry umbrella, but remember BFLC is also linked to **Amazon**, so if you shop through them sign up to link to BFLC, as they also give money to non-profits. These are very simple ways you can participate in enhanced ministry at BFLC. Please consider doing so.

## Olive Wood Ministry Update

Michael Zoughbi and the carvers from the Holy Land thank you for your support this year by purchasing the beautiful olive wood carvings. With the participation of First Lutheran Church, Black Forest Lutheran in Colorado Springs and Trinity Lutheran in Fort Collins, we were able to send them a check for \$2,213. This was not our best year, but our efforts are appreciated. The latest update on Michael's health is that his recovering is slow but steady. Our prayers have meant a lot to Michael.

## La Puente Hygiene Bags

It is that time again to think about collecting items for the Hygiene Bags that our very generous BFLC congregation delivers to La Puente in Alamosa twice a year! We will be preparing these kits to be delivered in April and any items you may be able to donate would be GREATLY appreciated by the people in need in the San Luis Valley. There is a shopping list on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall. Please take one to use as a guide as you see things on sale or clean out areas at home. Items may be marked "La Puente" and placed in the cart in Fellowship Hall any time throughout the year. We will plan to deliver these hygiene bags in April and again in September. Thank you!!

## Didi in the Congo

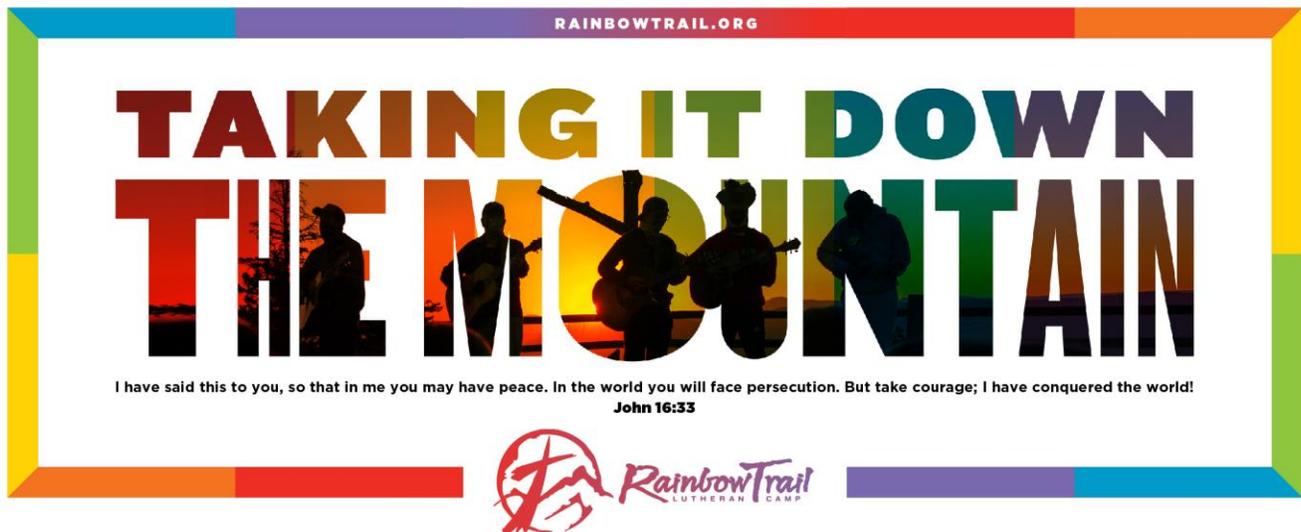
Didi and Serafina are getting settled in Boma after having been away for several months. Their "home" made it through their absence without harm. However, someone tried to use the generator with contaminated gasoline. It will take a repair man to get it back into working order.

There is no COVID vaccine in Boma and none is expected for some time. They were tested at each transit stop on their way to the Congo. They quarantined themselves for two full weeks, so that no one could accuse them of bringing in the disease. The Lutheran Church in the Congo has a medical office and will be involved when the time for vaccinations come. Didi has not yet been to Tshela and will probably not go until the new car arrives as he does not have another way to get there.

They recently have been to their local church for the first time. They were well received. Didi believes the church is doing OK. Boma, in general, has a lot of economic uncertainty, made worse by the COVID.

Please pray for Didi and Serafina that they will remain safe and healthy and will be able to minister to those in need.

Ed Storey



So much is happening at Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp, check it out below and for all details go to [rainbowtrail.org](http://rainbowtrail.org):

**-Rainbow Trail Winter Weekend-** March 19-21 (2 nights)

Rainbow Trail is offering winter family weekends this year! You can come and stay up on the snow-covered mountain and spend some time skiing, snow hiking, or anything else we can make possible with your family. There is also internet connection strong enough for home learning and working from home. We would love to see you up at camp this winter!

**-Summer Programs!** This summer experience the joy of being with old and new friends in a loving, supportive, and caring Christian community! Share the excitement of trying new things! Live the wonder of being immersed in God's creation! Rainbow Trail offers people of all ages the chance to be a leader, to grow in faith, and to experience wonderful adventures in incredible surroundings. Our fun and exciting staff will love you, care for you, and accept you as you are. Come to camp this summer and feel the power of the Holy Spirit as you grow in faith in Jesus Christ.

**-Summer Staff-Join a staff of about 65 amazing people and make a difference in the lives of hundreds of kids this summer. Staff can serve in a variety of different settings including Youth Camps, Family Camps, Day Camps, Compass Points backpacking, and Bridging Borders mission trips. Opportunities to serve begin after your Junior year in High School, most staff have completed at least one year of college.**

**-Summer Volunteers-**Get a taste of RTLCL's summer ministry as you serve alongside summer staff. Work with kids, do camp improvement projects, and share in the work of making camp run. Summer volunteers must have completed their Sophomore in High School, and if still in High School attend another week of RTLCL summer program.

**-Camp Grandparents-**Camp isn't just for kids anymore! Camp Grandparents play a critical role in making the week an amazing one for both campers and the staff. Participate in everything that campers do, including Bible Study, worship, games, planning with their group, hiking, wood carving, etc. This rewarding volunteer week is an incredible way to build relationships with kids and pass along the faith to another generation.



## MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

Ron & Ashley Bush	5	Terry & Susan Harrison	16
Emory & Sue Clark	9	Bill & Sherry Sieg	24
Michael & Heather Hite	12	Don & Sharon Cress	26
Steve & Barbara Gurnett	15		



## MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Barry Cavanaugh	1	Madison Hanson	4	Marty Phillips	4
Ann Buttermore	6	Dave Henderson	6	Jennifer Rutherford	7
Jim Fariss	8	Bill Moreau	8	Janna Flanders	9
Sean Kosman	9	Marj Denney	11	Kevin Mellon	11
Jan Veuthey	11	Amy White	11	Ryan Green	12
Brendan Gould	14	Jennifer Hoffman	14	Lydia Zelones	14
Kaylie Herrin	16	Dave Pfeil	16	Bill Sessoms	16
Tiffany Brooks	17	Nancy Storey	17	Suzana Lacomia	18
Maren Wurster	18	Kameron Fallang	21	Jutta Romans	25
Barbara Speir	25	Betsy Wintermute	25	Debbie Woods	25
Pastor Ken	30	Amelia Makowsky	31	Amelia Makowsky	31
Ken Palmen	31	Annegret Sessoms	31		



**Hello all, Jacob here!**

As we end the month of February I am reminded, yet again, of the importance to love God and love others. This is especially true after coming off a busy month and out of our annual meeting.

As was true of last month many of our classes met predominantly online. This is true of both our youth group as well as confirmation class. The exception was Wednesday the 10<sup>th</sup> when we were able to do both in person for the first time. It was a great time of talking to the students and teaching them valuable Bible lessons. I have continued contacting many of the students, young adults, and parents though digital means only as many are still in a season of hesitation and/or isolation. This, of course, includes texts, calls, FaceTime, and Zoom conversations. I am also able, on unfortunately rare occasions, to meet one-on-one with some of our students by taking them out to lunch and distancing in my office to eat our meals and chat. I look forward to continue these and to when these can become a common practice.

As we enter the season of Lent, we will continue to meet with the youth in person every Wednesday at 6:30 and then continue into the Lent service as part of the confirmation class. This has provided time to check in and do a quick devotional before entering the service.

In regard to student engagement, I have scheduled check-in times with the students to be available if they need to chat, catch up, or if they have any questions or issues that they would like to discuss. These chats have continued to be a valuable time to me as I get to know the students better.

As far as events are concerned, we are having our continued Young Adults meeting on Saturday February 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. We will continue to be safe and distanced while also playing games, having the opportunity to chat with one another, and getting into the Word together as well. Due to the snowfall some families with younger students and youth had a fun opportunity to meet at the church and play in the snow. We built snow slides, dug tunnels, and had several snowball skirmishes.

Although current events will still be limiting our meetings, events, and activities we are still offering Sunday school and Wiggle worship every week. These groups continue to give me such joy and hope for the future of the church and I am beyond thankful that we could continue to offer these to the students even during uncertain times.

We look forward to what God has in store for us this next month and are reminded that no matter what situation or circumstance we find ourselves in, God is Faithful.

For His glory,

Jacob Oglesby



***Check out Kids Corner on the website! Some fun interactive videos!***



The Spiritual Orphans Network would like to thank the Black Forest Lutheran Church for our donation of \$350. Our donation aids in the continuation of The Network reaching millions of orphans with the hope of the Gospel.

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The Holy Land Christian Ecumenical Foundation, Inc. extends their gratitude for our donation of \$153 to further ensure financial, moral and spiritual support for our brothers and sisters in the Holy Land.

\* \* \*

Dear Black Forest Lutheran Church,

I would like to thank the members and staff that have been working so hard to keep our church up and running this past year. The extra work, planning and creativity that have allowed us to worship and serve our community is beyond amazing. Thanks to the ushers, assistant ministers, altar guild, greeters, counters, flower donations, handymen, cleaning crew and supply donations, laundry helpers, Sunday school teachers, wiggle worship leaders, musicians, audio visual, committee and board members. Thanks to the guidance from pastor, youth director, council, and office staff. And I know there are many others that are helping quietly within our church and outreach. Thank you!

Not only are we able to worship comfortably and safely in Black Forest, but we have been able to share with friends and family across the country - and world. Many thanks to all who helped expand and develop our audio visual and communication technology.

We need our church family now, more than ever! Thank you for allowing our mission to thrive.

Sincerely,

A Very Grateful BFLC Member

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**Congratulations on new grandbaby!** – Francesca Wahlborg welcomed the arrival of her new grand-daughter Elowyn Winter Falldorf, February 23, 2021; 8 lbs., 8 oz., 21.5”.



### OUR MISSION

Black Forest Lutheran Church glorifies God through worship, prayer, education, and service as ambassadors of Christ.

### CONTACT US

Phone: 719-495-2221

Fax: 719-495-2222

E-mail: [bflc@bflchurch.org](mailto:bflc@bflchurch.org)

Web site: [bflchurch.org](http://bflchurch.org)

### OUR STAFF

Pastor – Kenneth D. Hohag

Youth/Family Ministries Director – Jacob Oglesby

Director of Ministries – Lisa Regennitter

Administrative Assistant – Michelle Madison

Organist – Barbara Gurnett

Choir Director – Melanie Hohag

Handbell Choir Director – Bill Fitzpatrick

Keyboard – Landra Decker/Alexandra Cullen

Ministers – All Members

### OFFICE HOURS

#### Weekday Hours

9:00am-2:00 pm Tuesday-Friday

Sunday Worship 8:00a & 10:30a (Mask required.)

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### BLACK FOREST LUTHERAN CHURCH

12455 Black Forest Road

Colorado Springs, CO 80908

**Recipient Name**

Street Address

City, ST ZIP Code